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COLOR LOBBY  
DANCERS OF THE  
CANADIAN  
MOUNTED

# SERIAL WORLD

## "G-MEN VS. The BLACK DRAGON"

A REPUBLIC SERIAL in 15 Chapters



ROD CAMERON  
RUTH ROLAND  
CONSTANCE WORTH  
MINO PIPITONE  
WILLIAM WITNEY-DIRECTOR  
ORIGINAL SCREEN PLAY BY  
DONALD DAVIDSON, WILLIAM LIVELY  
JOSEPH UDRELL, JOSEPH POLAND  
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER  
W.J. O'SULLIVAN

### Chapter 1      THE YELLOW PERIL

DAREDEVILS OF THE RED CIRCLE ARE BACK . . . RANDOM THOUGHTS  
MORE RUTH ROLAND . . . G-MEN VERSUS THE BLACK DRAGON, A TRIBUTE  
TO ROD CAMERON . . . PEARL WHITE'S FILMS . . . RUSTLERS OF RED DOG  
DEAD END KIDS IN SERIALS . . . SERIAL MAILBAG . . . SERIAL SHOWCASE



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**SPECIAL "THANKS" THIS ISSUE TO THE FOLLOWING FINE FOLKS:**

Eric Hoffman  
 Jim Stringham  
 Charles McCleary  
 Buck Rainey  
 Norm Lynch  
 John Roberts  
 Universal Pictures  
 Charles McCleary

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# SERIAL SHOWCASE

## BY JEFF WALTON

### EDITOR SERIAL WORLD

Every so often, (like every issue) we have so much to say that we must continue our stories until the following issue. So it is with this issue #36 of **SERIAL WORLD**. And after all we do deal with continued next time chapterplays. So rather than cut one word of our material we will bring it all to you complete in the future.

This issue is dedicated to **ROD CAMERON**, who passed away in December. Below is the obituary given to him by the L.A. Times. The rugged looking Cameron, aka Rex Bennett, will be missed by us all.



**Rod Cameron, 73, Hero of Films, Dies**

*Rod Cameron, whose rugged good looks and towering size made him an ideal model of a Western movie hero, died in a Gainesville, Ga., hospital after a long illness, on Dec. 21, 1983.*

*Cameron, 73, made more than 140 movies, most of them second-feature Westerns so lacking in distinction that even he forgot their titles.*

*"I never had any great artistic integrity about the pictures I made," he said in a 1979 interview. "It was a job and I did what I was told."*

*Standing 6 feet, 5 inches tall, with broad shoulders and a lanky athletic bearing, the curly haired Cameron, was born and raised in Calgary, Canada. His real name was Roderick Cox.*

*Oddly, he never had ridden a horse until he came to Hollywood, had worked as a construction laborer, and came to Los Angeles in the 1930s to drive tunnels for the Metropolitan Water District.*

*Later he went into the fertilizer business, then Cameron found work as a stunt man and a double for cowboy star Buck Jones. He also doubled for Fred MacMurray.*

*Some of his films included "Northwest Mounted Police," "The Kansan," "Gung Ho!," "Panhandle," "Dakota Gal," "The Gun Hawk" and "The Bounty Killer." He also performed in Saturday afternoon movie serials and in several television series.*

## SERIAL MAILBAG

**Dear Editor,**

*The spirit of the chapter-play lives on! At the end of Part 1 of the 2-Part Australian telemovie "Silent Reach" (1983) American actor Robert Vaughn is lying on bed asleep as intruder creeps up on him with raised spear, ready to lunge!...To be continued next week. The following week we saw the hero escape in true cliffhanger tradition: As the crook raised the spear it struck the ceiling fan, making a noise which alerted the sleeper and he rolled out of harm's way.*

*Cheerio. Keep up the good work*  
*Chris Collier*

**Dear Editor:**

*I would like to say that I think **Serial World** is the finest magazine on the stands today. You are doing a very fine job. I like the reproductions of the serial lobby cards which are reproduced beautifully in all their brilliant colors. I wish that you could include in each issue, a reproduction of a lobby card, in color, with the back side blank so that us serial fans could remove it from the magazine without damaging the issue, for framing. I, for one, would be willing to pay an extra fee for such a chance to obtain these lobby copies, to frame, without damaging the magazine.*

*However, keep up the good work. You are doing a fine job. Each issue proves it. Thank you.*

*Best regards,*  
*Bill Cooker*

**Dear Editor:**

*As a fan of the serials I am sad to acknowledge the passing of Buster Crabbe, a fine man and actor. I once had an opportunity to work with Buster on a film and was amazed at his good humor and professionalism. The ease with which he worked with the other actors, and his tolerance with the young, inexperienced director truly impressed me. He never lost his cool or pulled a star fit. He was loved by all who met him and showed an acute understanding of average people, mailing out at least a dozen signed photos to strangers he met while on location.*

*I'm proud to say the wet-behind-the-ears director of Buster Crabbe's last feature-length science-fiction adventure was myself. He portrays Sheriff Kowalski in my picture, **THE ALIEN DEAD** (1981).*

*My current film, **SCALPS** (released by 21st Century this October) stars serial star Kirk Alyn and former vampiress, Carroll Borland (who played one of Ming's wives in **FLASH GORDON** in the 1930's). She is also in our film, currently in production, **BIOHAZARD**.*

*Buster's passing marks the end of another era. He truly was a credit to his kind, right up to the end. He will be greatly missed.*

*Keep up the good work,*  
*Fred Olen Ray*

**Dear Editor:**

*Recently, to get more background on Serials and Westerns I'm thinking of buying, I've looked through the card catalogue of the New York Public Library at Lincoln Center. It's fascinating to read all that pressbook information on microfilm. Sometimes it's difficult to find anything at all, especially on films in the thirties. There is nothing listed for "Voice From the Sky." "Sign of the Wolf" has a single poster. I had better luck with "The Jungle Mystery." There are 2 volumes & an envelope of glossies for this Tom Tyler serial.*

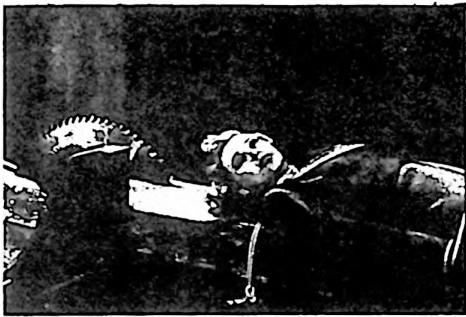
*Sincerely,*  
*Gary Spencer*



## "G-MEN VS. THE BLACK DRAGON"

*With*

ROD CAMERON  
ROLAND GOT  
CONSTANCE WORTH  
NINO PIPITONE  
WILLIAM WITNEY — Director  
**A REPUBLIC CLOWNPIECE**  
In 15 Chapters



# 'G-MEN vs. THE BLACK DRAGON

### CAST

ROD CAMERON as REX BENNETT  
CONSTANCE WORTH as VIVIAN MARSH  
ROLAND GOT as CHANG SING  
NINO PIPITONE as OYAMA HARUCHI  
NOEL CRAVAT as RANGA  
GEORGE J. LEWIS as LUGO  
MAXINE DOYLE as MARIE  
DONALD KIRKE as MULLER  
IVAN MILLER as CUSTOMS INSPECTOR  
WALTER FENNER as WILLIAMS  
C. MONTAGUE SHAW as PROF. NICHOLSON  
HARRY BURNS as TONY THE ORGAN GRINDER  
FORBES MURRAY as JAMES KENNEDY  
HOOPER ATCHLEY as CALDWELL

ROBERT HOMAINS as CAPT. GORMAN  
ALLEN JUNG as FUGI (2)  
JOHN HAMILTON as MARTIN (6)  
LAWRENCE GRANT as SIR JOHN BROOKFIELD  
CRANE WHITLEY as BURNELL (10)  
TOM STEELE as INTERN (12) TRASK (7)  
DALE VAN SICKEL as PIER HEAVY (3)  
BUD GEARY as MORSE  
KENNETH TERRELL as FARM HEAVY (7), BOAT  
HEAVY & GALT  
EDDIE PARKER as THE BUTLER  
STANLEY PRICE as GABBY  
GEORGE LYNN as GARR

# G-MEN VS. THE BLACK DRAGON

## EPISODES

1. THE YELLOW PERIL
2. JAPANESE INQUISITION
3. ARSENAL OF DOOM
4. DEADLY SORCERY
5. CELESTIAL MURDER
6. DEATH AND DESTRUCTION
7. THE IRON MONSTER
8. BEAST OF TOKYO
9. WATERY GRAVE
10. THE DRAGON STRIKES
11. SUICIDE MISSION
12. DEAD ON ARRIVAL
13. CONDEMNED CARGO
14. FLAMING COFFIN
15. DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

## 1: THE YELLOW PERIL

The time is World War II. America and her allies are fighting a life-and-death battle against the Axis combine of Germany, Italy and Japan. Trying to undermine the defense efforts and morale of the Allies are the secret espionage organizations of the enemy: The German Gestapo and it's counterpart, the even more deadly and ruthless Black Dragon Society.

Our story begins in New York City in front of the Manhattan Hotel. Waiting in front of the hotel, ostensibly reading a newspaper, is a swarthy, Oriental type with hard features. This is Lugo, whose character fits his features. A Eurasian, Lugo is one of the hatchet-men for the Black Dragon Society. At the moment, he is watching for somebody and, in a few seconds, his patience is rewarded. An attractive blonde girl, Vivian Marsh, emerges from the hotel's entrance. As Lugo watches, Vivian waits for her car. Lugo then walks over to a nearby black sedan parked nearby where his partner, Ranga, a completely merciless type when it comes to murder, waits behind the wheel. Lugo points Vivian out to his partner as she gets into her car and drives off. Ranga is to follow and dispose of the girl, while Lugo is to meet him at the New York airport.

As Vivian drives along a suburban highway, also headed for the airport, she detects her pursuer and a car chase ensues along hair-pin turns and dangerous curves over winding roads. Ranga shoots at Vivian's car and the girl comes to a split-second decision. She steers her car towards the sloping edge of the road and leaps out as the vehicle plunges from the road, crashing into a gorge below. Vivian hides in some brush as Ranga stops by the side of the road and looks down as the girl's car bursts into flames. Sure that Vivian has been finished in the blazing crash, Ranga drives off. But as he starts to move away, Vivian darts out from behind the brush and leaps onto the trunk rack of the back of the car and hangs on for the rest of the journey, unseen by her would-be assassin.

At the airport, Ranga reports the death of Vivian Marsh to

Lugo, but both men stop in amazement as Vivian, handbag in hand, walks into the air terminal and goes through the procedure of boarding the plane for Los Angeles. Ranga starts to draw his gun, ready to shoot Vivian in front of everyone in the terminal. But Lugo stops and says they'll have to catch a fast plane and beat Vivian to L.A.

We now switch to Los Angeles, or more specifically, the office of Rex Bennett, special investigator for the U.S. Government. Rex is a tall, rangy, good-looking young man, handy with his fists and his mind when on a case. At present, he is greeting a distinguished visitor, Sir John Brookfield of the British Foreign Office. As the two men talk we learn that Rex's latest assignment is the Black Dragon Society. Rex tells Sir John what little he knows of the deadly Japanese organization, and the diplomat tells Rex that a British operative is on the way to L.A. with important data regarding the Black Dragon. Rex says he will be glad meet 'him,' but Sir John explains that the operative is a she, one Vivian Marsh. She will arrive at the city airport, wearing a white carnation. Rex is to meet her that evening.

But forces of the Black Dragon are already at work, for that night, at the front of the airport, we find Lugo, sitting behind the wheel of a car, while Norris, an American henchman, is waiting for Vivian. When she emerges, Norris introduces himself as a representative of Rex Bennett; he tells the girl Rex will meet them at the Grant Hotel. Vivian is just about to get into the car with the man when another car pulls up and Rex emerges. Spotting Vivian, Rex identifies himself. At that moment Norris draws his gun, ready to kill Rex. But an o.s. shot sends him crumpling, causing Lugo to drive off fast. Rex runs up to Vivian, who had been knocked to the ground. As Rex reaches the girl, the man who fired the shot killing Norris appears. He is Chang Sing, a medium sized Chinese, representing the Chinese Secret Service, and an old friend of Rex's. Rex is about to drive after Lugo's car when Vivian stops him. Something more important is happening and she must relay her information to Rex. After Rex's assurance that Chang is trustworthy, Vivian tells the two that Oyama Haruchi, the leader of the Black Dragon Society, and the most cunning, ruthless in all Japan, is being smuggled into America on the freighter Rangoon. Chang says he heard that Haruchi was being brought into the country, but lacked the ship he was on. Once Haruchi is in the country, he will lead his agents in a campaign of terrorism and sabotage against the American war effort. Rex says he'll have an embargo placed on the cargo being brought in on the 'Rangoon' until they can get there. The ship is being unloaded at Pier 17.

At that moment, at the customs warehouse of Pier 17, we find Ranga, dressed in a chauffeur's outfit with Muller, a moustached, studious heavy who could be taken for a scientist or professor. The duo are watching in worry as the Customs Inspector is preparing to open up an Egyptian sarcophagus casket. Muller is protesting that the casket contains a mummy from Tibet of incredible age that was embalmed by a secret process. Opening it would expose the mummy to the air and possibly cause irreparable damage. The customs man is apologetic but has to follow the rules. As Ranga and Muller watch worriedly, the officer breaks the seals on the mummy case. The two talk in whispers. From their conversation, it is obvious that Haruchi is inside the casket. But when the officer opens the casket, all he finds is a mummy, swathed in rotting bandages. Apparently satisfied, he gives them the okay to take it out. But as the two men prepare to carry the casket and its contents away, the phone rings. It's the port authorities, ordering that nothing is to

leave the warehouse. The customs man stops Muller and Ranga, telling them the orders. Muller protests begging him to let them take the 'mummy' to the city museum. The official, sympathetic to the situation, calls the port authority to see if an exception can be made.

Meanwhile, Rex is driving to the Pier warehouse with Vivian and Chang in the car as well. Vivian and Rex are wondering how Haruchi will enter the U.S. while Chang, in a little bit of Oriental wisdom (?) says, 'From the Japanese always expect the unexpected.'

Back at the warehouse, Muller has gotten the bad news; the port authority will not allow any exceptions. Apparently taking everything in good grace, Muller offers the customs man a cigar, then offers to light it. But his lighter spews forth a poison gas that sends the customs officer reeling to the floor. Now Ranga and Muller must work fast for, as Muller explains, Haruchi is under a drug that causes suspended animation. He must only be touched or exposed to air under certain conditions. If he isn't given the antidote, which Muller carries in a hypodermic, within a certain time, the drug causing the death/life state will actually bring about death. Muller makes the necessary injection into the now revealed Haruchi, a sinister looking Jap, who even in the death/sleep looks utterly deadly, capable of any kind of evil.

Outside the warehouse, Rex and his friends arrive. Vivian waits outside while Rex and Chang go inside. They find Muller and Ranga, but don't suspect what's going on until Chang suddenly spots the customs official's body lying nearby. Muller and Ranga pile into our heroes and a wild, free-for-all style brawl ensues. During the fight in which Rex battles Ranga and Chang takes on Muller, Haruchi starts to come to, like some ancient supernatural creature rising from the grave. Seeing what's going on he closes the casket lid to hide himself. Vivian enters the warehouse, attracted by the noise and shoots Muller as he is about to murder Chang. Haruchi, seeing his chance, seizes the girl agent and uses her as a hostage, making Rex and Chang allow Ranga and himself to escape. When Rex, Chang and Vivian try the door of the warehouse, they find it's locked from the outside. However, Rex is still swinging into action as he gets to the warehouse phone and makes a call that will start a dragnet for Haruchi.

But it is soon obvious that the dragnet has failed for we find ourselves inside a large room, furnished in rich, ornate manner, the wall studded with medieval Japanese weapons, Japanese furnishings, etc. Haruchi is seated behind a black lacquered desk at a chair, the arms of which resemble the arms and paws of a dragon. On the desk, besides various usual items, is a statue of a black dragon. Haruchi is telling Ranga of the aims of the Black Dragon Society — to spread terror and sabotage to the Allies, destroying their war effort and their morale. Through their efforts, it will be possible for Japan to win the war in the Pacific and rule all the lands bordering that ocean. Just then Lugo enters, informing Haruchi that their financial agent has arrived.

The agent, an American quisling named Williams, enters. Williams tells Haruchi that their plans have gone exactly right and that the Society now owns the Pacific Marine Paint Co., which has contracts to deliver paint to all of the shipyards. Haruchi scans the papers of ownership and tells Williams that they will not need his services any more. Williams, not wanting to lose a good meal ticket, thanks Haruchi in a fawning manner, but as he backs away from the desk, Haruchi raises one of the arms on the chair and Williams is plunged through a trap door. Moments later, a trained raven, a pet of

Haruchi's, flies into the pit as the door closes. There is a scream from Williams, and then, no more.

Haruchi tells Lugo and Ranga that Williams 'betrayed his country. He would have betrayed us.' He then proceeds to show his two aides their latest weapon from Japan; a chemical which, when added to the paint used on the ships, will cause the ships to catch fire. He demonstrates with a small model of a warship in an aquarium filled with salt water. He explains that the chemical reacts to the action of the oxygen in the atmosphere and the salt water. As he does so, the ship suddenly bursts into flames...

We now shift to sequences of destruction; American battleships catching fire in seconds, exploding at sea. The newspaper headlines tell of six ships destroyed in the Pacific. And in Rex Bennett's office, we find Rex, Vivian and Chang reading of the new disasters to America's war effort. As Rex tells of the new ship disasters, Chang murmurs, 'Beneath the fire and the smoke stretch the claws of the Black Dragon.' Rex agrees and explains that all the sinkings had one thing in common; there were no survivors. He then leads his friends into the laboratory where a piece of hull from one of the wrecked ships is being checked. Chang then thinks that the sailors may not have had time to launch lifeboats, meaning that the fire spread with incredible speed; in only a matter of minutes. Rex agrees and shows that the fire on the hull plate had literally been blasted off, as if with gunpowder. Something in the paint may be responsible. So, he and his two friends are going to check the three paint companies in the city, get the formulas for their paints and then check them for any ingredient capable of causing the wholesale destruction. Vivian is to tackle the Pacific Marine Paint Company, while Rex and Chang will split the Regent Paint Works and the Maritime Paint Factory.

Meanwhile, at the Pacific Marine Paint Company, we find Lugo and Ranga at work, spraying a steel locker with a new paint compound. Lugo explains to his partner that the paint is a new mixture designed for airplanes. It has a shorter delayed timed in combustion so that the planes will explode in mid-air shortly after take-off. Ranga chuckles evilly as he thinks of the headlines telling of the thousands of American and Allied bombers blowing up mysteriously. And the authorities wouldn't even think of the paint!

Outside in the office of the plant, Vivian enters. A worker, Morse, is sitting there. Vivian asks him for the manager and Morse goes into the experimental lab set up in the warehouse proper. He tells Lugo and Ranga of the girl looking for the manager. The two Jap agents are worried and Ranga decides to take a look for himself at their curious visitor. When he enters the office, he's jolted to see Vivian. Vivian, stalling for time so she can edge to the door of the office and escape, asks 'What are you doing here?' 'I'm the manager,' Ranga snarls as he grabs her and hustles the British agent into the plant room. Lugo and Ranga decide that since Vivian has been so curious about what's going on, she should have a real front-row seat for the action. With Morse's help, they put her into the newly painted locker and shut her in. In the struggle, a can of the volatile paint is knocked over and Morse starts to wipe it up.

Meanwhile, Rex and Chang have pulled up outside the plant to meet Vivian after they have gotten the data they went after at the other plants. But there's no sign of her. Inside the office, they find Vivian's handbag and get suspicious. Drawing their guns, the two agents walk into the Warehouse proper and cover Lugo, Ranga, and Morse, demanding to know what happened to Vivian. Lugo denies knowing her, when Vi-

vian, hearing the voices of her friends, pounds at the locker door yelling for help. The distraction gives the three heavies the chance they need and the fight is on.

The fight that ensues can really be called a free-for-all brawl, with Rex and Chang fighting for their lives against the three Black Dragon agents. During the brawl (one of the best and most exciting I've seen in a Republic serial), the outside of the locker Vivian has been trapped in bursts into flame.

Rex and Ranga hurtle out of the warehouse proper into the office, with Lugo right behind. Rex manages to knock the two thugs down and rushes back into the warehouse, which is now a mass of flames, with the fire from the locker spreading all over to huge drums of the inflammable paint, drums of linseed oil, etc. Chang has been knocked down by Morse, who is preparing to shoot him when Rex jumps him from behind and the two men struggle for the gun. Inside the locker, Vivian is struggling to open the door while the heat and smoke are getting too much for her. Finally, she can take no more and with a scream of pure anguish, she sinks out of the picture, apparently succumbing to the heat and smoke. Lugo and Ranga have run out of the warehouse office.

And at this point, the entire warehouse blows in a multiple, triple explosion of gigantic proportions!

## 2: JAPANESE INQUISITION

As the fire rages in the warehouse, Chang comes to and hears Vivian's scream, just as Rex continues to struggle with Morse for the gun. Rushing to the blazing locker, Chang grabs a bucket and uses it to force open the locker door, pulling Vivian out just as Rex knocks out Morse. The trio spots a back door in the inferno and rushes out through it, away from the warehouse, moments before it is destroyed in the multiple blast.

Later, at Rex's office, Rex is dictating an order to his assistant, Spencer, to have all paint from the Pacific Marine Paint Co. seized and destroyed. Vivian is certain this stops that particular operation. But Chang is not so happy as he says, 'Pull one claw of the Black Dragon and two more take its place.' Rex agrees with this 'wise saying.' Suddenly, Chang gets an idea, asking if there is any Black Dragon member being held in the Japanese interment camp at Manzanar. Rex recalls that there is one man. Chang then explains his idea; if he could be smuggled into the camp as a prisoner, and then escape with the man, or help him escape, the Black Dragon member might take him to their society's headquarters. Rex and Vivian agree that the idea is a good one and are soon looking at a picture of the man in question; Fuji. According to Rex, they have evidence pointing to his membership in the society, but they could never prove it.

And so, within a few days, newspapers carry the story of the escape of the Jap spy from the Manzanar camp. We soon find Fuji and Chang, dressed in ordinary clothing, entering the Calcutta Importing Company, where they are greeted by Nick, the Asian owner. He directs them through a door hidden by curtains, into the back warehouse room. Fuji is to contact Haruchi to arrange for their flight to safety, while Chang is to wait, playing his part of a Jap wishing to serve his country through joining the Black Dragon group. But outside the shop, Vivian, in a car equipped with a short-wave radio, is reporting to Rex, who prepares to join her, ordering the girl to make sure she doesn't lose sight of Chang.

Inside the warehouse room, Chang has brought a small dictaphone listening device with him and is holding it to the wall, listening to Fuji talking to Haruchi over the phone. Haruchi,

at his hideout, is pleased at Fuji's escape, but is suspicious of Chang, saying to Fuji, at the latter's information that Chang wishes to join the Black Dragon, that the Society picks its members, the members do not pick the Society. Chang is to be eliminated. Lugo will come to the shop to pick up Fuji and take him to one of their hideouts, where Haruchi will meet him. When the conversation ends, Chang resumes his pose of not suspecting a thing, while outside, in the sales room Nick gives Fuji a stiletto knife with which to finish Chang. He is ushered through a secret door inside a mummy case.

But Chang hears the click of the opening second door and faces Fuji as the latter comes at him with the knife. The two men battle, with the lamp in the room knocked over, plunging the room into darkness. A short time later, Vivian, still in her car, sees Lugo's vehicle pull up outside the shop, honk out a signal, and then sees a figure, apparently Fuji, emerge. Worried, she radios Rex, who is driving to the shop, telling him that Fuji came out, but Chang didn't. Rex orders her to follow Lugo's car, not to lose it. The girl does so.

Rex arrives at the Importing shop a short time later. But in the meantime, Nick has gone into the warehouse room to dispose of Chang's body. Only he finds Fuji, just regaining consciousness, locked in a closet! Suspecting the worst, Nick gets to a phone and calls Haruchi just before the latter leaves for the meeting place, warning him of the danger. Haruchi assures Nick that their 'visitor' will be taken care of.

When Rex enters a few minutes later, demanding to know the whereabouts of Fuji and Chang, Nick denies all knowledge. Rex draws his gun, and forces Nick into a back room, where Fuji lies still playing possum. Nick keeps Rex's attention diverted, taunting him that Haruchi has been warned of the spy. Fuji has gotten up in the meantime, preparing to shoot Rex. Something in Nick's face warns Rex and he whirls Nick in front of him so that the spy receives Fuji's shot. Rex shoots Fuji and then gets to his car, radioing Vivian that Chang is walking into a trap.

Vivian reports that Lugo's car drove into a lumber mill at Mill Road and Ventura Blvd. in the San Fernando Valley. Rex orders her to watch the place, he'll be there in a few minutes.

In the saw mill, Lugo brings in the disguised Chang, but Ranga exposes the secret agent, while a third henchman keeps Chang covered. Ranga orders Chang tied, while he decides to check the lumber yard to make sure he wasn't followed. He finds Vivian looking in through a window of the saw-mill and takes her inside, a prisoner. The two agents are defiant when Ranga demands information from them, so the Eurasian gets an idea. He orders Vivian tied to a 2x4 board 20 feet in length, which is on the conveyor of a huge buzz saw. Vivian will be fed into the buzz saw, head first, if Chang doesn't tell the spies what they want to know. Vivian urges Chang not to talk, but Ranga, in rage, has the buzz saw started.

Just then, Rex enters, gun drawn, and orders the saw stopped. The heavy reaches for the switch but grabs a wrench, hurling it at Rex, who fires, killing the thug. But Lugo and Ranga dive at Rex, and the trio fights it out, while Chang struggles to get free of his bonds, and Vivian is being carried toward the saw. Rex tries to get to the control switch, Chang tries to get free, and Vivian is apparently carried into the whirling teeth of the buzz saw!

### 3: ARSENAL OF DOOM

As Rex slugs it out with Lugo and Ranga, and Vivian is carried closer and closer to the buzz saw, Chang manages to get his hands free and grabs up Rex's gun, dropped in the fight and shoots the control box of the saw, stopping the mechanism in time to save Vivian. Lugo hurls a two by four board at him, but Chang, though hit, fires at Lugo, just as Ranga knocks Rex away. The two Black Dragon agents flee, driving off in their car. Ranga orders Lugo to head for Nick's shop to get any papers and documents that have been stored there. Meanwhile, Rex and Chang have freed Vivian, with Rex deciding to head back for the Importing shop as well; perhaps they can find some clues that will help them.

At the shop, Lugo and Ranga find the bodies of Nick and Fuji. Realizing that Rex had been there, the two agents start to clean out the safe and desk of all documents, after pulling out a case containing some kind of locator. They eventually pack all the documents in a briefcase and Ranga sets a time bomb so it will explode in a few minutes. He hides it in a large urn. He and Lugo are about to leave when Rex's car pulls up in front of the shop. The two thugs leave the back way, taking the papers, but leaving the locator case behind. Rex, Vivian and Chang enter the shop and start looking around. Chang spots the locator case, about the size of a small suitcase, and opens it revealing a device with a panel board like a radio, dials, meters, and a pair of earphones. Also connected are two small microphones. Suddenly, the group hears a ticking sound. It's the bomb. They start to search. After a couple of minutes with the audience biting its collective nails, Rex finds the bomb in the urn, recognizes it for what it is, and hurls out the window, moments before it explodes. blasting in the window and knocking our heroes down. As they dust themselves off, Chang notices a piece of pottery hit the machine in the blast, damaging it. Rex says they can take it to a man he knows, Prof. Nicholson, and get it fixed.

Later, at Nicholson's laboratory, Nicholson, an elderly, distinguished looking man, tells Rex he fixed some broken connections and replaced a busted condenser. From his examination of the thing, the device is a machine for locating submarine craft. The small microphones connected to the machine are the most sensitive he has ever come across. Instead of reducing their power, the water magnifies their pick-up power a hundred fold. Rex and Chang decide that they'll use the device as it is intended; to locate subs — enemy subs, that is.

At Haruchi's headquarters, the Black Dragon leader, while smoking a cigarette, is telling Lugo and Ranga that a submarine will be delivering a cargo of deadly munitions to their Pier City warehouse. They are to meet it.

That night, in the city harbor, Rex and Chang are cruising the area in a speedboat, Rex working the locator, wearing the earphones. Also aboard the speed boat are several cans of depth charges, ready for use. At the same moment, in the warehouse, Lugo and Ranga are unloading the last of the munitions, Ranga telling the sub to head back for its base.

As the sub leaves, submerging, Rex, in the speedboat, picks up the sound of the motors on the detector. From the dials that indicate distance and direction, he realizes that the sub is

around Pier City. Chang starts up the speedboat and they head for there. When the indicator shows they are over the sub area, the two agents start dumping the depth charges overboard, the resulting explosions shaking up the sub and its crew until one charge finds its target, destroying the enemy submarine completely. (Footage of sub and its crew, as well as its destruction from KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED — Ep. 1) Rex then tells Chang to steer the boat for Pier City.

They pull up at the wharf where the Black Dragon warehouse is situated, and leave the boat, leaving the detector aboard. However, the sound of the boat's approach is heard by Lugo and Ranga, who get ready to ambush whoever enters the warehouse. Rex and Chang go through the doors and Lugo pushes a stack of oil drums and boxes at them. Rex yells a warning and he and Chang get out of the way in time. Lugo and Ranga attack, with the aid of a henchman, and a wild fight ensues.

In the free-for-all, the henchman is killed when he is knocked onto an axe he tried to kill Chang with. Chang is knocked down by Ranga, and Rex is hurled back as well. As the two heavies run from the warehouse, Lugo grabs a sack of explosive powder. During the fight, one of the oil drums broke open and the volatile fluid is all over the floor by the door. The two Black Dragon agents lock the doors and Lugo proceeds to empty the powder from the sack in a trail, then lights it. The powder burns to the door and ignites the oil as Rex and Chang are trying to batter it open. They leap back as the flames start to spread all over the warehouse, which is lined with boxes and drums of explosive and volatile munitions. As the flames move toward them, Rex and Chang are trapped in the back of the warehouse, hemmed in on both sides by stacks of munitions. There is no escape as the entire pier warehouse blows up!

### A COLLECTOR'S DREAM



This 6-SHEET Serial poster measures 80" by 80", nearly SEVEN FEET SQUARE. It is in full color, showing Tom Tyler, Billy Benedict, Frank Coghlan Jr., and Louise Currie, with the robed and hooded Scorpion. It is a stunning example of serial posters of its time (1941) and is extremely scarce, particularly as a poster of a comic strip superhero and also because a 6-sheet seldom is available for sale. This poster has been backed with a single thickness of canvas and is therefore extremely

durable. The backing is slightly oversize so that the poster can be framed if desired or it can be hung or displayed as is. It has also been slightly restored. There is a 1" by 3" chip in the lower margin which is almost unnoticeable. From a proper distance, it almost appears to be painted on the canvas. As far as known, this is the only poster of this subject available for sale. It is unlikely that there are many in existence, since they were not designed for long-term usage. The poster itself was originally printed in two sections. It has been expertly joined and linen backed. A long and expensive search would probably not yield an equivalent addition to a collection of film or comic book memorabilia. This poster is available for purchase, and offers are solicited. The minimum offer which will be considered is \$900.00 F.O.B. Los Angeles. Purchaser must make arrangements for taking delivery. The backed poster can be easily rolled, but will remain 80" in length or width. Offers should be submitted to:

**MAX ABRAMS, BOX 76082, LOS ANGELES, CA 90076**



# RANDOM THOUGHTS

from

## NORM'S NOSTALGIA ©



By Norm Lynch

### CHAPTER FIVE

This Chapter begins my second year as a writer for SERIAL WORLD. Time has passed quickly! I want to sincerely thank all you Good Guys who have written; I've really enjoyed hearing from you! To CLAY SCROGGIN, whose letter appeared in SW #34, thanks a million for writing. If you will send your address to me, I'll be happy to include you as a member of NORM'S NOSTALGIA CLUB, which is undergoing some radical changes right now. I have not actively sought new members for over three years, but I extend an invitation to anyone who is interested, including ex-members. CLAY reports that Channel 6 in Miami is currently showing the DICK TRACY serials... A new version of DICK TRACY is being filmed at present. To serial fans, there was only one Dick Tracy, and that was RALPH BYRD! He holds a record that will never be equalled: He was the only actor to portray the same fictional character in 4 serials, 2 features, and a TV series. Of course, there was GENE AUTRY with one serial, 93 features, and a TV series — but Gene was playing himself. When the DICK TRACY serial was first announced in 1937, the only actor I felt resembled the comic strip drawings was JACK HOLT (sans moustache), and I couldn't imagine anyone else playing the part — but then I'd never heard of RALPH BYRD! Byrd brought to the role such energy and vitality that — let's face it — he WAS Dick Tracy! And the villians in the first serial, every bit as menacing as those in the comic strip; The Spider or the Lame One, whose shuffling clump walk signalled immediate death for his enemies, (EDWIN STANLEY); Moloch, the evil genius brain surgeon, (JOHN PICCIRI); and GORDON TRACY, Dick's brother, victim of Moloch's operation, whose monotone voice hinted that here was a guy who wasn't playing with a full deck, (CARLETON YOUNG). Obviously, one of my favorite serials!... THE MASQUERS SALUTE TO BOB STEELE, a sound cassette advertised in FAVORITE WESTERNNS, makes for some most enjoyable listening. Serial and Western fans will enjoy hearing old favorites

again. I recommend it... I also recommend SADDLE ACES OF THE CINEMA by BUCK RAINY, who also writes for SERIAL WORLD. Here is one writer who does NOT neglect movie serials. This is one of the most enjoyable books I've read! Some of the cowboy stars Buck writes about were "before my time" but the biographies of the others is of special interest. Filmographies on each star make this one of the best reference volumes in existence. The author obviously did a tremendous amount of research and it shows. This book belongs in your reference library!... WANTED: a copy of THE GREAT MOVIE SERIALS by HARMON and GLUT. Does anybody have one for sale or know where it can be purchased?... This week, September 11, marks a radical change in the showing of serials on PBS here in Houston. MATINEE AT THE BIJOU is shown at 1 P.M. every Tuesday, which doesn't help anyone in my age group since we are all at work — but — beginning this week, ACTION-PACKED CLIFF-HANGERS will be shown every day at 5:30 P.M. — and — the fourth season of MATINEE begins this Saturday evening at 5:00, with Chapter One of MYSTERY SQUADRON. I don't know how long this will last, since our Program Director is so inconsistent, but I'm sure gonna have a good week!... The second serial on MATB this season is WINNERS OF THE WEST. This info comes from GRADY FRANKLIN, Editor of THE WESTERN FILM, and author of THE WESTERN TRAIL column in FAVORITE WESTERNNS. Grady sent me the entire BIJOU BULLETIN packet from MATB, a most generous gesture on his part. In fact, Grady has been of tremendous help in getting this column off the ground, and I'm very grateful to him. Thanks a million, Grady!... SPACESHIP TO THE UNKNOWN is the current title to the feature version of the 1936 FLASH GORDON serial. It was shown a few Saturdays ago in Houston. I turned off the phone, kicked my wife and kid out of the house, and settled down to two hours of solid enjoyment... LLOYD BRIDGES (SECRET AGENT X-9) has made a Kool-Whip commercial. He had a good part in the season premier of the TV show, MATT HOUSTON on



79/EP-2-9

September 9. Most of the show was filmed in and around Houston. LEE HORSLEY and most of the stars made a big hit with Houstonians. But one scene was filmed during the heat of the day (95 degrees), one of the extras fainted, and when some of us gawkers went forward to help, the director lost his temper. Of course, the whole incident was filmed and shown on the evening news on the three major stations. Tsk!...Those folks who run the MEMPHIS FILM FESTIVAL are really on the ball! Already for next year they've signed BRUCE BOXLEITNER (FRANK BUCK), DOUG McCLURE AND MARC LAWRENCE as guests. Lawrence had a bit part in THE SPIDER'S WEB as "Steve" ...BOB CAMPBELL who produces MATB is looking for a good print of THE GREEN ARCHER, either to buy or rent. Does anybody know of one?...JERRY LEFFIE and FRANK A. GUTIERREZ both have visited England recently. Jerry saw chapter 3 of THE PERILS OF NYOKA and Frank saw SOS COAST GUARD every Tuesday on British TV. Apparently serials are still popular with our English cousins...Two new books out on supporting players in the movies. CHARACTER PEOPLE is enjoyable; even mentions an actress from my ole home town, Mattoon, Illinois. Three others from MATTOON were CARL "ALFALFA" SWITZER, PINKY TOMLIN and JACKIE MORAN (Buddy in BUCK ROGERS); and BURL IVES and SMILEY BURNETTE were born in the same area. Smiley was running a radio station about 12 miles north when GENE AUTRY convinced him to move to the WLS NATIONAL BARN DANCE in Chicago. The other book, WHO IS THAT? is disappointing — all pictures and names but no

biographies...A special THANKS to BRUCE LEONARD of AUSTRALIA for his help in trying to locate a serial for us...A.E. WOODHAM advises that MATB is being shown in his area on WSFU, Ch. 11, Tallahassee, and WDIQ, Ch. 2, Dozier ALABAMA. Same shows, same days, different times...With no lights or water during hurricane Alicia, I was reminded of my youth — coal oil lamps, cooking inside and going to the bathroom outside, hand pumps to draw water from wells (or rainbarrels), Saturday night baths using water heated on the kitchen stove, or the coal stove in the living room. Saturday, with the serial and cowboy show was the best day of the week — and BUCK JONES was the greatest, whether he was in the serial, or the feature, or — if you were very lucky — BOTH!...C.H. NEEDHAM, JR. writes that one of the biggest morale boosters in his early life was the background music to serials, especially THE LONE RANGER serials and westerns with Indian frontier warfare. Serials made him want to live up to the very best in life. I think a lot of us were influenced this way by serials. We imitated what we saw, no doubt of it. Needham has a beautiful letter written by KENNETH MACDONALD when Needham was stationed in Germany...ROBERT CHERRY, ex-movie extra, now a deacon in his church and a Christian worker in L.A., has send me some excellent background material on serials. Thanks a million, Robert! It's very enjoyable reading!...I'm sorry I don't have time to answer all letters personally, but I appreciate any news on serials being shown in your area. Let me hear from you. The address is NORM LYNCH, 1726 MAUX, HOUSTON, TX 77043. Happy viewing and listening!

# DEAD END KIDS IN FILMS & SERIALS

By John Roberts



Original Screen Play, Paul Huston • George H. Plympton • Griffin Jay  
Additional Dialogue, Brenda Weisberg  
Directed by RAY TAYLOR and LEW COLLINS  
Associate Producer, HENRY MacRAE  
A UNIVERSAL CHAPTER-PLAY

In 1937, William Wyler's "Dead End" introduced a rowdy gang of six teenage actors. The kids — Billy Halop, Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Bobby Jordan, Gabriel Dell, Bernard Punsley — were recruited from the Broadway production of Sidney Kingley's play to repeat their stage roles in the film version. "Dead End" was critically acclaimed and the kids (notorious scene stealers) stole the film from the likes of Humphrey Bogart and Joel McCrea.

Warner Brothers quickly signed the actors and dubbed them "The Dead End Kids." Halop was their rebellious leader and Gorcey his wisecracking and jealous rival. Hall acted the clown while Jordan was the sickly member. Punsley was all brawn and no brains and Dell didn't do much of anything. The kids never varied performances and were meant to be Warners' miniature versions of Bogart, Cagney and Garfield.

The studio put the kids to work in "Angels with Dirty Faces" (1938), "Hell's Kitchen" (1939) and "Angels Wash Their Faces" (1939). They starred in their own film, "Dead End Kids on Dress Parade" (1939). The kids left Warners in 1940 and continued working separately and together in later years. In the early '40's, the Dead End Kids became the East Side Kids with new recruits and finally during the late '40's and early '50's, Gorcey, Hall and Dell led the Bowery Boys.

Four of the original Dead End Kids teamed for three Universal serials. Halop, Hall, Dell and Punsley starred in "Junior G-men" (1941 dirs. Ford Beebe and John Rawlins), "Sea Raiders" (1941 dirs. Beebe and Rawlins) and "Junior G-men of the Air" (1942 dirs. Ray Taylor and Lewis D. Collins). The first two were 12 episodes and the last was 13 episodes. The kids' acting style didn't change although the serials placed them on the right side of the law.

In "Junior G-men," Halop, Hall, Dell and Punsley played Billy, Gyp,



Terry and Lug. Billy's father invents a new explosive device and both have been abducted by the Order of the Flaming Torch led by fanatical Cy Kendall. Billy and his street gang join with Kenneth Howell's Junior G-men in pursuit of Kendall. The kids survive capture, a wild airplane ride and treacherous elevator shaft before bringing the traitors to justice. The serial was high on patriotism and down on anarchy.

"Sea Raiders" were foreign agents trying to steal a new type of torpedo boat. Billy (Halop) and Toby (Hall) are trapped aboard a sabotaged freighter and pals Bilge (Dell) and Butch (Punsley) save them. The gang escapes to the sea raiders' island hideout and survive Reed Hadley's ruthless detonation of explosives. Saved by policeman William Hall, Billy and Hall disguise themselves as sea raiders and board

Hadley's yacht. They plant a secret bomb that destroys Hadley and his sea raiders.

"Junior G-men of the Air" gave the kids Dead End names. Halop played Ace Holden; Hall, Bolts Larson; Dell, Stick Munsey; and Punsley, Greaseball Plunkett. The kids work in an airplane junkyard where they're building a plane from spare parts. The theft of their truck draws the gang into G-man Richard Lane's pursuit of Turhan Bey and four other Axis agents. The spy leader is the Baron (Lionel Atwill), a Japanese mastermind hiding out on a camouflaged farm.

Lane persuades Ace's gang to join Frank Albertson's Junior G-men in eliminating the Baron's Order of the Black Dragonfly. The serial tops "Junior G-men" by dropping bombs on the kids, blowing up oil wells and crashing planes. Ace's gang, Junior

G-men and state police converge on the Baron's hideout and engage the enemy in a furious gun battle. Ace captures the Baron and the sabotage ring is broken. "Junior G-men of the Air" is the best of the three serials and boasts an exceptional cast.

Hall, Dell and Punsley didn't make another serial. Gorcey never appeared in a serial. Jordan made "Adventures of the Flying Cadets" for Universal in 1943. Halop starred in a fourth Universal serial, "Sky Raiders" (1941).

Three of the four Dead End Kids/Junior G-men remained actors. Billy Halop continued acting until his death in 1976. Huntz Hall and Gabriel Dell are still visible actors. Bernard Punsley left acting, became a doctor and resides in the Los Angeles area. Leo Gorcey and Bobby Jordan died long ago.



**CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE...**

#### 7: The Flooded Mine

The boys find the bomb and throw it out of the window of the laboratory moments before it explodes, escaping death when it goes off just by the wall of the power plant. They rush over to Selden, but discover he's dead, with Burt grumbling that they've lost their chance to get something on 39013.

At the study in the 'sterile half' of the Granville house, 39013 and Dr. Malcolm are discussing a call the mad criminal received, informing him of the boys' escaping the bomb. At least Selden is dead. Now 39013 can concentrate on finding and eliminating the Red Circle. He knows it is someone in the Granville household and is going to dispose of each one systematically. The first one to go will be Blanche. At this, Dr. Malcolm proceeds to object, protesting that anything happening to her will cause the police to investigate the house, check it from top to bottom, revealing everything. But 39013 stops his squeamish partner's complaining by reminding him who's in charge. He then leaves Malcolm to pay another visit to Granville and tell him of his plans.

In the basement-prison, Granville is informed by 39013 of his plan; Granville's radium mine has had a bit of bad luck; a strata of water threatens to flood the mine. The mine pumps

are going but more are being sent. The miners are afraid to work and Blanche, if her grandfather asks, will go down into the mine to show that it's still safe.

Later, the disguised 39013 stands at the window of the study watching as the boys and Blanche drive off to the mine. Suddenly, a rock crashes through the window with a note which reads, You Guessed Wrong — the Red Circle is Still Operating!

At the mine, the superintendent is explaining to Blanche and the Daredevils what has been happening. Other workmen and miners are standing around in the mine shed which has been built around an elevator shaft that goes down into the mine tunnel itself. One man, Rex, is standing by a window. Blanche goes onto the mine elevator with some men to inspect the mine and is soon lowered into the depths. Rex waves a handkerchief out of the mine office window as a signal to some of 39013's men, led by two men named Sloan and Ward.

Inside the mine, the superintendent explains that power for the elevator and mine machinery must come in a steady stream from the nearby power house. Outside, Sloan, using a high-powered rifle, shoots down a wire of a high tension tower supply power to the mines. At the mine, all hell breaks loose as the people in the shaft signal they want to come up; there's no power and Blanche and the miners are trapped below in the mine which is filling slowly with water. At the power house, the men there suspect that a wire is down in the mountains. At the mine, Gene volunteers to go to the powerhouse and tell them what has happened.

Sloan and his men have set up boulders in a road to stop any repair crews, while the Daredevils arrive at the power house. Gene talks Bill and Ed, two workmen, to come with him while Burt and Tiny stay with Tom, another workman, at the plant.

Gene comes upon the boulder hazard but bypasses it by going over the rough terrain itself. Meanwhile, Sloan decides to go to the power house to make sure nothing goes wrong with their plan. He arrives with some men and holds Tiny, Burt and Ed at gunpoint, forcing Ed to show him the switch that will send power into the power line. Right now, the switch is open, making the line safe to handle, but when it's closed...and Sloan does just that.

At that same moment, Gene and Bill are preparing to get to work on the power line, when it comes to life and knocks Bill to the ground with its voltage. At the power house, Burt and Tiny jump the thugs when their attention wanders, and soon have the upper hand. At the tower, Gene, seeing everything's all right, after Burt has opened the switch once more, starts climbing up the tower, preparing to connect the wire to the power terminal. But at the power house, Ward, following Sloan, has shown up with more men and gotten the drop on the boys, ordering Burt and Tiny tied up. He then closes the power switch, unleashing voltage into the lines.

Gene is about to hook the power wire onto the terminal when there is a flash of electricity, stunning him, and he plunges from the tower to the ground below!

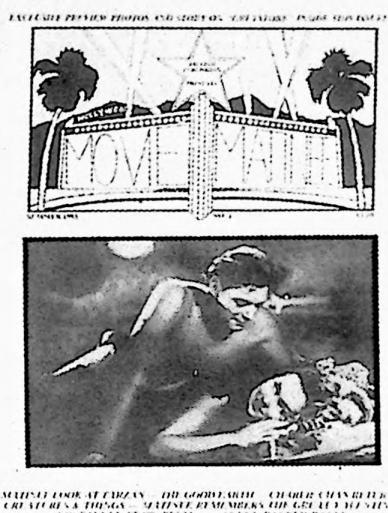
#### 8: S.O.S.

As Gene comes hurtling down from the high-tension tower, he crashes onto the roof of the car he and the workmen came in; this breaks his fall and he rolls off it onto the road. Bill helps Gene to his feet, the Daredevil still alive. Gene says it was a good thing he had let go of the wire just before the electrical charge occurred. They head back for the power house.

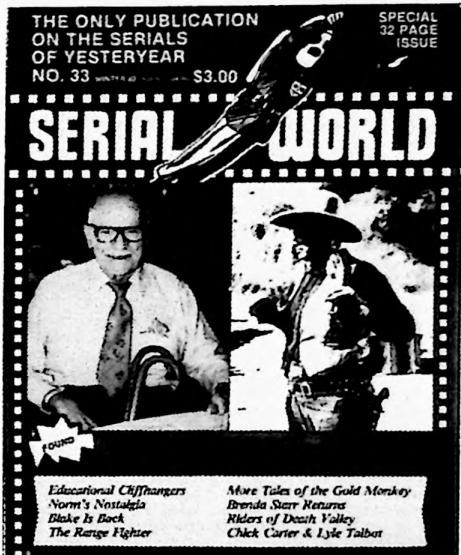
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# A MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER

By Norman H. Kietzer

These four pages constitute the special advertising section of our publications — specifically Serial World #36, Serial World Reprint #9, Matinee #3, and Favorite Westerns #17. This section is also sent separately to all 4,000 plus people on our mailing list. Since this is explained completely in our last book club section and since we have plenty of copies of it still available, if there is anyone interested in receiving a copy of it — a listing of all books, magazines, and video tapes available from us — just send me a request (at P.O. Box 3325, Mankato, MN 56002) and I'll be happy to send you another copy of it. In this issue we will list only the new advertisements we have received and the new material now available from us.

If you wish to place an advertisement in our next section, please send it to me by March 1st, 1984. The terms and rates for our special package remain the same.

**Full Page** ..... \$75.00      **10c per word including address**  
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When you place an advertisement with us it will be run in all of our publications over a three month period. That means the total circulation that your ad will receive will be in 1,500 copies of Serial World, 1,500 copies of Favorite Westerns, 1,000 copies of Matinee, and as a bonus in over 4,000 copies of the special brochure consisting of our advertising section that is mailed to all other customers who have ever purchased items from us every three months. So your total circulation of an advertisement placed with us is 8,000 plus — for one time cost only. One of the best bargains available to reach potential customers in the Serial/Western field.

To clear up any confusion remaining concerning the reorganization of Kietzer Publishing Company that we tried to cover in our last issue. We have received several letters concerning the current relationship between myself and Jeff Walton and between the video tapes we are selling and those Jeff is selling. Basically, we sell books and video tapes in an effort to generate the revenue necessary to publish the magazines whose costs we cannot fully cover from sales. It is our way of generating advertising revenue that we could not get as publishers and tape companies did not use their own advertising budgets to help support us in most cases. We knew we had customers among our readers who would be interested in buying items that were not advertised with us, so when we were unsuccessful in getting ads we decided to experiment by becoming dealers in such books and tapes as we thought would interest our readers. Thus our own successful book and tape clubs which are part of the overall publications. This is past history which I have covered before.

During 1983 we reorganized the Serial World Publishers twice, first from a partnership between Jeff and myself into a division of my Kietzer Publishing Co. with Jeff working for it on a salary; and then later Jeff decided he would rather organize his own business, which he has, which produces the editorial sections of Serial World, Matinee, and Favorite Westerns for us for a fee and free advertising space in the magazines. That is our present arrangement. So Jeff and I continue to work together, but he now has his own separate business which does the editorial work for these three magazines and produces and sells video tapes and beef jerky which happen to be advertised in our magazines.

So in short — if you have anything to do with the editorial section of the magazines you want to communicate, or if you wish to order things from his advertisements — that should be sent to **Jeff Walton, P.O. Box 64345, Los Angeles, CA 90064**. On the other hand, if you wish to order subscriptions, advertise in our magazines, or order books or video tapes from the clubs operated by the magazines, or order books or video tapes from the clubs operated by the magazines — that should be sent to **Kietzer Publishing Co., P.O. Box 3325, Mankato, MN 56002**.

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68. Doomed At Sundown  
69. Feud Of The Range  
70. Kid Courageous  
71. Kid Ranger  
72. Last Of The Warrens  
73. The Law Rides  
74. Northwest Trail  
75. Oklahoma Cyclone  
76. Smokey Smith  
Three Mesquiteers  
77. Ghost Town Gold  
78. Gunsmoke Ranch  
79. Hell The Saddle  
Tom Tyler  
83. Ridin' On  
84. Silent Valley  
85. Pinto Rustlers  
John Wayne  
86. Hell Town  
87. Rainbow Valley  
Rough Riders  
88. Forbidden Trails  
89. Gunman From Bodie  
90. West Of The Law  
Gene Autry  
91. The Big Show  
92. Boots And Saddles  
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Roy Rogers  
1. Apache Rose  
2. The Arizona Kid  
3. Billy The Kid Returns  
4. Bad Men Of Deadwood  
5. Come On, Rangers  
6. Colorado  
7. Cowboy And The Senorita  
8. Far Frontier  
9. Frontier Pony Express  
10. Gay Ranchero  
11. Heart Of The Golden West  
12. Home In Oklahoma  
13. Idaho  
14. In Old Caliente  
15. Jesse James At Bay  
16. King Of The Cowboys  
17. Man From Music Mountain  
18. Man From Cheyenne  
19. Nighttime In Nevada  
20. Ranger And The Lady  
21. Ridin' Down The Canyon  
22. Romance On The Range  
23. Robin Hood Of The Pecos  
24. Rough Riders Roundup  
25. Saga Of Death Valley  
26. San Fernando Valley  
27. Sheriff Of Tombstone  
28. Silver Spurs  
29. Song Of Texas  
30. South Of Santa Fe  
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- 003 AMOS 'N' ANDY: Fake Suicide 12/1/44; w/Paul Taylor Chorus 12/22/44
- 004 THE AVENGER: Keys to the City; Death in Mid-Air (both 1945)
- 005 BIG STORY: William Miller 5/8/48; Ralph K. Mills 5/19/48
- 006 BIG STORY: K. McCartney 5/21/47; Dorothy Kilgallen 10/18/47
- 007 BIG TOWN: Pittsburgh Lit 10/19/37; Fire Trap 10/26/37
- 008 BILL STEIN (90 minutes): 10/3/47; 10/10/47; 10/18/47; 10/17/47; 8/19/49
- 009 BING CROSBY: Two shows with Al Jolson 12/28/49 and 1/4/50
- 010 BING CROSBY: Groucho Marx 1/11/50; Barbara White 1/18/50
- 011 BING CROSBY: Louis Armstrong 12/25/50; Bob Hope 2/1/50
- 013 BOLD VENTURE: #47 Isle of Pines; #48 Matt Jeffery
- 014 BOLD VENTURE: #49 Welcome Back to Civilization; #50 Ruthie Ryan
- 015 BOLD VENTURE: #51 Robbery by Joe Raiston; #52 Haven's Venezuela Isle
- 016 BOSTON BLACKIE: #53 Baseball Murder; #54 Stolen Car Ring
- 017 BOSTON BLACKIE: #55 Frances Fielding Killed; #56 Winthrop Jewels
- 020 BOX 13: #3 Blackmail is Murder; #4 Actors Alibi
- 021 BOX 13: #5 Extral; #6 Shanghai
- 022 BRIGHT STAR: #1 Oll Swindle; #2 Susan Runs for Mayor
- 023 BRIGHT STAR: #3 Hillside becomes "Mom & Dad"; #4 Miss America Visits
- 024 BROADWAY IS MY BEAT: Emile Caldwell 8/26/49; Tommy Stafford 7/3/49
- 025 BROADWAY IS MY BEAT: Frannie Greene 7/10/49; Charles Miller 6/9/49
- 027 CHANDU THE MAGICIAN: Temple of Karnack 3/17/49; Temple Under the Sun
- 028 CHANDU THE MAGICIAN: House of Fear 3/31/49; Voice of Darkness 4/14/49
- 029 CISCO KID: #163 When Skunk Speaks; #164 Golden Avnl
- 030 CISCO KID: #165 Lady Sheriff of Sandy Gulch; #166 Jall Rush
- 031 COUNTERSPY: Washington Woman Spy 6/8/42; Dog of Dynamite 8/25/45
- 032 COUNTERSPY: Two part story— The Cold-Blooded Professor 8/30 & 9/1/49
- 033 COUNTERSPY: Arrogant Aeronaut 9/8/49; Courteous Come-Ons 9/8/49
- 034 COUNTERSPY: Two part story— The Postal Pirates 9/20 and 9/22/49
- 034 DICK TRACY: (90 Minutes) all 1938— 2/8, 2/9, 2/10, 2/11, 2/14, 2/15
- 040 DRAGNET: Dentists Wife Missing 8/14/51; Hill and Run 8/21/51
- 041 DRAGNET: Alived Peter Dies 8/4/52; Arthur McKinley, Florist 11/23/52
- 042 DRAGNET: Two part story— The Big Mask 12/23/52 and 1/4/53
- 043 DRAGNET: Two part story— The Big Gun 3/23 and 3/30/50
- 045 ESCAPE: Shipment of Mute Fate; Leinenengen versus the Ants
- 047 ESCAPE: Wild Jack Rett; This Side of Nowhere
- 049 ESCAPE: Golden Snake; Three Skeleton Key
- 051 THE FALCON: Proud Papa 6/8/51; Big Talker 4/29/51
- 054 FBI IN PEACE AND WAR: Traveling Man 8/10/53; The Fence
- 057 FBI IN PEACE AND WAR: End of the Rope; 48 State Alarm
- 058 FIBBER McGEE AND MOLLY: 1/31/39; 2/7/39
- 059 FORT LARAMIE: Playing Indian 1/22/58; Boatwright's Story 1/29/58
- 065 GANGBUSTERS: Abe Belter 9/8/49; William Crain 9/22/45
- 066 GREEN HORNET: Corpse that Wasn't There 4/18/43; Pallander to the Throne
- 067 GREEN HORNET: Walkout for Profit 8/28/41; Murder Across the Boards
- 068 GREEN HORNET: Reservoir for Murder 2/7/42; Torpedo on Wheels 11/14/42
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- 075 HALLS OF IYV: Founder's Day Celebration; Honor Winner's Daughter
- 076 HARRY LIME: #1 Too Many Crooks; #2 See Naples and Live
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- 087 INNER SANCTUM: Over My Dead Body 8/23/47; Murder Takes A Honeymoon
- 088 INNER SANCTUM: Death Rides the Riptide 9/6/48; Cause of Death 12/8/48
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- 093 JOHNNY DOLLAR: Squared Circle Matter; Elen Dear Matter
- 094 JOHNNY DOLLAR: (10 min) 5-parts— Broderick Matter; STRANGE AS IT SEEKS
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- 097 JOHNNY DOLLAR: (10 min) 5-parts— Valentine Matter; STRANGE AS IT SEEKS
- 099 LET GEORGE DO IT: House that Jack Built; It's a Mystery to Me
- 105 LIFE WITH LUGI: Income Tax Problems 3/11/52; Three Most Important Words
- 111 LUX RADIO THEATRE: The African Queen 12/15/52
- 113 LUX RADIO THEATRE: O.S.S. 1/18/46
- 116 MAISIE: #9 Clothes Make the Woman; #11 Room Clerk
- 117 MAN BEHIND THE GUN: PT Pre Joe 2/12/44; Incident In the Pacific 2/19/44
- 120 MERCURY THEATER: Treasure Island
- 121 MERCURY THEATER: A Tale of Two Cities
- 122 MERCURY THEATER: The Hitchhiker; King Lear
- 125 MR. & MRS. NORTH: Crooked Ring; Die Hard
- 126 MR. CHAMELEON: Perfect Maid Murder Case; Murder & the Million Dollar Smile
- 127 MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Deadly Snowflake 5/26/48; Unknown Source 7/14/48
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- 133 MURDER AT MIDNIGHT: Man with the Black Beard; The Ape-Song
- 134 MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER: Man Who Knew Everything; Behind the Locked Door
- 138 NIGHTBEAT: I Know Your Secret 4/10/50; Girl in the Park 2/27/50
- 139 NIGHTBEAT: Psychopath; Anton's Return 7/31/51
- 142 PEOPLE ARE FUNNY: 1/25/71; 1/6/57
- 143 PHILIP MARLOWE: Persian Slippers; Harpin Turn
- 146 PHILIP VANCE: Bulletin Murder Case; Cover Girl Murder Case
- 149 RICHARD DIAMOND: Man with the Scar; Rawling Case
- 150 RICHARD DIAMOND: Kell 4/5/50; Spence 3/5/50
- 151 ROMANCE: Monte Carlo 8/2/52; Mademoiselle 44 6/8/52
- 152 ROGUE'S GALLERY: 1/3/46; 1/17/48
- 154 SAM SPADE: Dry Martini Caper 8/1/48; Apple of Eve Caper 8/19/48
- 155 SAM SPADE: Champion Caper 8/7/45; Prodigal Daughter Caper 8/28/47
- 156 SCREEN DIRECTOR'S PLAYHOUSE: Northside 777; Affairs of Susan 12/16/49
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- 162 SHADOW: Gun Island 10/23/38; Isle of Fear 10/30/38
- 163 SHADOW: Mission of Madness 11/5/39; Invector of Death 11/12/39
- 164 SHADOW: Shadow Returns 11/19/39; Sandhog Murders 11/28/33
- 165 SHADOW: Cat Killed 12/31/39; Murder in the Death House 1/7/40
- 166 SHADOW: Precipice Called Death 12/1/40; Murderer's Vanity 3/17/40
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- 163 SHADOW: Firebug 10/10/37; Blind Beggar Dies 10/17/37

- 170 SHADOW: Power of the Mind 10/24/37; White God 10/31/37
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- 177 SHADOW: Society of the Living Dead 2/6/38; Phantom Voice 2/13/38
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- 179 SHADOW: Death is Blind 10/9/38; Shyster Payoff 11/6/38
- 180 SHADOW: Black Rock 11/13/38; Ghosts Can Kill 11/20/38
- 181 SHADOW: Guess of Death 12/4/38; Ghost of Captain Baylow 1/15/39
- 182 SHADOW: Appointment with Death 3/12/39; Can the Dead Talk? 3/19/39
- 185 SPIKE JONES: Ken Griffin 5/21/48; Franklin Laine 5/28/48
- 192 SUSPENSE: Nobody Loves Me 8/30/44; X-Ray Camera 10/23/47
- 193 TERRY & THE PIRATES: (90 min) all Dec. 1946; 24, 11, 13, 20, 23
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- 197 TOMORROW: Civil Defense Drama with Orson Welles 1950
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- 211 CHANDU THE MAGICIAN: Man with Photographic Memory; Brotherhood of the Black Oath
- 212 CHANDU THE MAGICIAN: Spell of Dimitri 3/3/49; Framed for Smuggling 3/10/49
- 213 CHANDU THE MAGICIAN: ominous Deadly Sabor; Fog of the Forgotten Valley 4/28/49
- 214 CISCO KID: #265 Murder at Pine Creek; #266 Midget of Broken Spur
- 215 CISCO KID: #261 Voice of the 44; #262 Parade of Death
- 216 ESCAPE: The Birds 7/10/54; Bird of Paradise 3/11/54
- 217 ESCAPE: The Scarlet Plague 4/8/54; He Rides the Tiger 3/12/49
- 219 GOON SHOW: Plasticine Man; Rent Collector 1/17/58
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- 236 LET GEORGE DO IT: Out of Mind 5/2/49; Vultures on a Wing 5/9/49
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- 256 RICHARD DIAMOND: Mr. Helden, Gunmaker; Lt. Levinson Is Kidnapped 1953
- 257 ROMANCE: Stripteaser & Space Warp; Sometimes It's Hard to be a Gentleman
- 259 SHADOW: Murder at Dead Man's Inn 9/12/48; Revenge Is Murder 9/19/48
- 260 SHADOW: Drum of Obl 10/24/46; Murder by a Corpse 10/31/48
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- 269 SUSPENSE: Three Skeleton Key 11/11/56; Dead Ernest 5/8/47
- 277 AMOS 'N' ANDY: Andy Gets Married—Part 1 1-12/11/49; Part 3 1-1/1/50
- 278 AMOS 'N' ANDY: Andy Gets Married—Part 4 1/8/50; Kingfish's Flower Shop
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- 308 HOPALONG CASSIDY: #53 Last Word; #54 Bad Medicine at Rimrock
- 309 HOPALONG CASSIDY: #61 Buckshot Badmen; #62 Boss of Vinegar End
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- 312 INNER SANCTUM: Girl and the Gallows 5/14/52; Corpse in a Cab 5/23/49
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- 323 MARK TRAIL: Snowy Owl Bounty 10/3/51; Operation Eager Beaver 10/5/51
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- 325 MOLLE MYSTERY THEATER: Glicanda Smile 8/19/45; Beckoning Fair One 6/5/45
- 326 MR. KEEN, TRACER OF LOST PERSONS: Silver Dagger; Ruthless Murderess
- 328 MR. KEEN, TRACER OF LOST PERSONS: King Cobra; Forgotten Cave
- 330 MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER: Change of Address 1/22/52; Stranger in the House
- 332 MYSTERY IN THE AIR: Mask of Medusa 9/4/47; Black Cat 9/18/47
- 333 MARK SABRE OF THE HOMICIDE SQUAD: Portrait in Red; Telltale Tie 10/8/52
- 338 OUR MISS BROOKS: Rumors 9/10/50; Measles 10/1/50
- 340 OUT OF THE DEEP: Panther Story 2/8/48; Octopus Story 2/18/48
- 341 PHILIP MARLOWE: Indian Giver 8/13/49; Bum's Rush 9/3/49
- 342 PHILIP MARLOWE: Monkey's Uncle 3/7/50; Vital Statistics 3/14/50
- 350 ROGUE'S GALLERY: Alibi Master 2/20/48; Maria Jewels 4/4/48
- 351 ROGUE'S GALLERY: Judge Coll Baker 8/18/45; Juanita Mansfield 5/9/45
- 352 THE SAINT: Murder the Theatrical 8/22/50; Prove I Killed Carter 11/7/49
- 355 SEALED BOOK: Hands of Death; King of the World
- 356 SEALED BOOK: Accusing Corpse; Stranger in the House
- 357 SEALED BOOK: I'll Die Laughing; Design for Death
- 358 SPIKE JONES: Don Amache 6/25/48; Buddy Clark 8/4/45
- 359 SPIKE JONES: Burf Ives; Eddie Haywood 5/14/48
- 360 SUSPENSE: Told in Two Episodes: Donovan's Brain
- 361 SUSPENSE: Murder on Mike 7/28/57; Return Trip 8/27/48
- 362 SUSPENSE: Present Tense 3/3/57; Murder by the Book 7/10/47
- 364 STRANGE WILLS: Midnight on the Moor; Uncle Jeremiah's Legacy
- 365 TALES OF THE TEXAS RANGERS: Dream Farm 3/6/52; Blind Justice 3/11/51
- 366 WHISTLER: The Killers; Death Has a Thirst
- 369 WHISTLER: Blind Alley 9/24/43; Mirage 10/3/43
- 372 NERO WOLFE: Stamped for Murder; Dear Dead Lady
- 375 NICK CARTER: King's Apology; Midway Murders
- 380 VIC AND SADE: Six shows form November 1943
- 381 WEIRD CIRCLE: The Hard; Jane Eye
- 382 WEIRD CIRCLE: The 4:15 Express; The Goblet

Meanwhile, at the mine, jubilance reigns supreme as the superintendent and workers see the indicators come, showing that electrical power has been restored. And it's a good thing too, for in the mine tunnel Blanche and the trapped miners are up to the waist in water as the flood waters continue to seep in. They are raised to the surface in the elevator.

At the power house, Ward and his men have left Tiny and Burt tied up. Gene and his friends find them and free the two Daredevils, Burt expressing relief that Gene is okay after Ward threw the power switch. The trio heads back for the mine. There, they are greeted like heroes (which they are) and start heading back for the Granville house with a very wet but happy Blanche.

Back at the Granville house, 39013 is infuriated at the failure of his attempt to wreck the Granville radium mine. However, with all the viciousness of a rattlesnake, 39013 starts plotting his next attack. Later, down in the basement dungeon, 39013 pays another visit to the imprisoned Granville, taunting him with his next move — another strike at Granville's main project, his gas company. 39013 plans to destroy the pipe line which carries a supply of natural gas from Kettle Drum Valley. With the destruction of the line, Granville will lose a valuable franchise which is good as long as he supplies a continuous flow of gas. To Granville's protests as to what havoc and damage it will cause to people and hospitals, 39013 snarls contemptuously, and leaves his prisoner, with the gas device still full.

In Dixon's office, the Daredevils are informed that a tip has been called in by a Mr. Brown, and the boys are to check it out. But Tiny, who, when he gets hungry, has an appetite almost matching his herculean frame, complains that he's hungry. Dixon has Snowflake prepare some sandwiches for the boys to take along.

Back in the cellar, 39013 has returned and refilled the infernal gas device. Granville, meanwhile, has finished the breakfast that 39013 has evidently brought him and has been busily engaged in using a pin to prick out a message in one of the ads in the paper, but stopped when 39013 entered the room. The master criminal promises Granville a 'more interesting paper' the next day and takes the breakfast tray and newspaper.

Later, Snowflake is busy wrapping sandwiches when Jeff, the nurse, leaves the breakfast tray in the kitchen. Snowflake uses the paper to wrap up the sandwich package. While he fills a thermos with something, the hand of the Red Circle appears and draws the familiar insignia on top of the package. Tiny comes for the package and joins Gene and Burt. They're on their way.

In the car, Tiny spots the Red Circle on the package and the boys check the paper, finding the pin-prick message warning of 39013's plan. Gene stops the car by a pay phone and calls Dixon telling him they are heading for Kettle Drum Valley. 39013, listening on an extension, hears this, with Dr. Malcolm standing by, and phones one of his henchmen, a man named Zeke, ordering him to dispose of the boys the same time he takes care of the pipe line.

The boys arrive at the line, spotting one of Zeke's men, a thug named Kit, sneaking off with a package. What they don't know is that the thugs have set up the dynamite, the wires, and are readying the magneto detonating plunger box. Burt is in the lead of his companions in pursuing Kit but trips over the dynamite wires. Gene spots them, and suspecting something, cuts them, moments before Zeke has his men push the plunger. The thug sees this disgustedly. Meanwhile, Kit is zooming off on motorbike after planting a package under the

pipe line. Gene shoots the tire of the bike, which crashes, and the trio captures Kit. They find the package is only a fake. Kit won't talk and Tiny is all for using force. Zeke and his men, meanwhile, sure that Kit won't talk, head for the gas well & oil derrick at Kettle Drum to destroy that.

Instead of letting Tiny work Kit over, Gene has tied him up and has spliced the dynamite wires back together. Then the trio walks off, saying they're going to find the plunger and see if there really was dynamite but pushing the device. Kit, terrified of being blown up, cracks and tells all. Taking the thug to their car, they drive to the well, planning to drop Kit off in a town along the way.

At the well, in the construction shack, Zeke and his men are setting up an incendiary bomb in the tool room, part of shed but separated from the main room of the structure by a door. They set the fuse for two minutes, and prepare to leave just as the Daredevils arrive and overpower their guard. The trio bursts into the building, and a fight ensues. During the fight, the bomb in the tool room goes off, setting fire to the room, and spreading flames all over. The flames even start to seep out into an oil sump under the building and around the base of the oil derrick.

As the fight progresses, the guard, who had been knocked out by Tiny, comes to, and holds the Daredevils at bay with his gun. Zeke and his men escape the building, locking out boys in. They fail to open the locked door, and try the door to the tool shed, but are driven back by a wall of flame and smoke. Their next try is a shutter covered window, which Tiny shatters with a drill bit, but again flames drive them back. They then work in unison to break down the front door of the shack, only to be greeted by flames and smoke which drives them back into the center of the construction shed room.

The flames are all around the shack, and have burned away the main support of the oil derrick. As Zeke and his boys look on from a distance, and the Daredevils are trapped inside the shed, the derrick suddenly topples over, crashing down onto the construction shed, demolishing it with our heroes inside the blazing mass!

## 9: Ladder of Peril

As the fire rages, Gene suddenly spots the answer to the Daredevil's dilemma; on a wall of the shed are several asbestos fire-fighting suits used by men battling oil well fires. The Daredevils don the grotesque looking outfits and make their way out of the shed, through the flames, moments before the huge oil derrick crashes down on the shed, demolishing it.

As they start to get out of the outfits, the boys hear a muffled shouting, and pounding from another shed. They follow the sound to find the well-man tied up. The man tells them that unless they can turn off the emergency cut-off valve, the fire will go to the pipe line, blowing it up. When it is discovered the wires are cut so that the automatic valve won't work, Gene and Tiny help the well-man turn the manual valve control, while Burt goes to a phone to call Peck at the city gas plant and tell him to turn up the furnaces so that the city will still have gas; turning on the valve at the derrick cuts off the natural gas for the plant. If the furnaces are not kept going, the city will be without gas.

Burt is informed that the furnace tanks have no oil to keep it going. He tells Gene, who suddenly spots a tanker truck; the boys will fill it with oil and drive to the plant to keep the furnaces going. Zeke and his men have been watching all this



from behind some machinery, and decide to take off ahead of the boys and do some dirty work to sabotage their effort. Their plan is to sabotage the bridge up ahead. The bridge is held up by huge wooden pilings. Knock one of the central pilings down and the bridge will not be able to support the weight of the tanker truck.

Gene has sent Tiny and Burt ahead while he drives the truck. The two Daredevils spot Zeke and two men emerging from under the bridge. They stop as one thing is climbing up, and go after him. Burt gets his man, while Tiny is set upon by Zeke and another thug. A wild brawl ensues, in which Tiny and Burt are victorious. But during the slug-fest, Gene has started the drive to the gas plant in the oil-laden tanker truck, unaware of the sabotaged bridge ahead.

Tiny and Burt spot the piling that has been knocked and, hearing Gene's approaching truck, push the support in place again, at an angle, and exert their strength to keep it there, so the bridge will not give way under Gene's truck. Their efforts are rewarded when Gene drives over the bridge safely. Zeke, meanwhile, has come to and sneaked off.

At the Granville home, in Granville's glass-lined audience room, Burt is reporting the events to the 'invalid,' finishing up with that the men didn't know who their boss was or where they could find him. Dr. Malcolm then arrives after 'Granville' expresses his gratitude for the boys' efforts. The doctor informs his patient that he is here to give him another treatment, and Malcolm, 'Granville,' and Jeff leave. Dixon informs the boys that he has been working out an idea on the

Red Circle angle of the mystery and is having everyone gather in his office for a conference. He invites Blanche to attend as well, and the girl accepts.

In the study, 'Granville' is determined to get to the bottom of the Red Circle mystery as well, and makes a call to his henchman Marco, relaying a phony plan to slip in a truck loaded with gasoline into a parade of fuel trucks which the Daredevil have arranged, carrying crude oil to the gas plant. At the other end of an extension somewhere in the house, the shadow of the Red Circle listens in. When he hangs up, 'Granville' informs Malcolm of his plan. Now he'll see who's in Dixon's office when a Red Circle warning is delivered. He then heads downstairs to the basement dungeon where he removes his remarkable mask, and confronts the imprisoned Granville in his normal guise of 39013. Granville, previous to this, has been pricking out another message in a newspaper, but stops when 39013 comes in. The madman shows him in an article in the paper telling of the sabotaged gas plant, and promises more interesting news the next day.

However, 39013's plan to find out who the Red Circle is is foiled when the mysteriously ally of the Daredevils sets up a clever device that rings the pantry bell causing Dixon and the Daredevils to come to the pantry and find a Red Circle note waiting for them, warning of the gas plant danger. Gene and the boys head there at once.

Malcolm informs 39013 of the failure of his plan to find the Red Circle, but 39013 swings into action when informed that the Daredevils are on their way to the plant. He realizes he

can have the boys eliminated.

At the plant entrance, Burt, Gene and Tiny have been checking the parade of oil-laden trucks driving into the complex, finding no gasoline in any truck. But nearby, by a crane, bearing a heavy mass of iron girders and such, three of 39013's men, Davis, Mac and Joe, are preparing to kill the boys. At a signal, one of their men, at the crane controls, releasing the load of iron. Gene spots the mass as it hurtles down at the Daredevils and dives at Tiny and Burt, dragging them out of the way and under a truck in time. The trio spots the thugs and go after them. There is a wild chase, when each Daredevil picking a target. Tiny gets his man, while Burt, via his fantastic acrobatics and agility pursues his foe.

Gene chases Davis, until the thug is trapped atop a gas storage tank. Gene starts climbing up a ladder on a platform of the tank, after Davis. Trapped, the criminal suddenly sees a way out. The ladder is not held by anything at the top of the tank. Grabbing a huge measuring stick, he pushes at the ladder. Gene is frantically climbing up to the top of the tank, when Davis pushes the ladder away. The ladder, with Gene clinging to it, falls back from the tank, apparently carrying Gene to doom hundreds of feet below!

## 10: The Infernal Machine

As the ladder, with Gene hanging onto it, tips back, about to plunge into space, the base jams between the tank platform railing and the base of the tank at the platform, halting at an angle. Gene, hanging on, is saved from death, and makes his way to the platform. Davis, seeing this, makes his way down a gas pipe, but Gene is right on his heels and captures the thug.

At Dixon's office in the Granville mansion, the security chief is congratulating the three Daredevils. Gene then explains about the message in the newspaper and has a feeling that it may lead them to 39013. When Dixon questions as to who might be sending them these messages, pricked in newspaper pages, Gene thinks that it might be someone afraid of showing himself or who is unable to. Dixon is doubtful about the idea, but agrees to let the boys gather all the old papers they can find and check them for messages.

Later, Dixon tells 'Granville' of the boys' idea in the audience room, not knowing that his employer is the very man he has been trying to capture, 39013. 'Granville' expresses shock at the idea of the papers, and then goes on a new tangent, stating that he feels it may have been a mistake to have hired the Daredevils in the first place. He wants Dixon to have the boys watched day and night, and above all, not to believe what they tell him.

Meanwhile, the boys have been busy little beavers, digging up papers from everywhere, from furnaces, garage, even the garbage cans (a task Tiny gets involved in). At one point, Snowflake is busy reading a paper, and Tiny walks by, snatching the paper out of the startled major-domo's hands without breaking stride.

'Granville,' in the meantime, has conferred with a panicky Dr. Malcolm. He orders Malcolm to take care of the angle of the papers, while he goes to visit the real Granville. The reason is that both men have come to the conclusion that Granville has been creating the pin-prick messages. In the dungeon, Granville is caught in the act of pricking out a message in his paper, and is forced to relinquish it to his false

look alike. 39013 informs him what is happening and dampens Granville's rising hopes by warning him that if the boys get too close to the answer, he'll return to finish up the necessary arrangements in regards to Granville. Before he goes, he fills the infernal gas device once again.

The boys, meanwhile, have done their work well, going over everything. In the library, they are busily pouring over paper, even though Tiny has goofed off for a moment, reading the funny page. Then, Blanche enters, saying she found a message pinned to her door. The boys are on the alert when they find it is a Red Circle message, warning them that someone is taking the papers they gathered from the garage.

Blanche also tells them that she has some old papers in the attic and goes to get them. Gene rescues some paper from the incinerator furnace that Jeff has started up. The boys then arrive at the garage in time to drive off Dr. Malcolm who was about to make off with a load of the papers.

Back in the library, Gene has found a page with a message and starts to spell out G-R-A-N...

And down in the basement dungeon, 'Granville' confronts the real millionaire, informing him that their association is about to be terminated. So saying, he goes to the gas machine and adjusts it so that water drips from it slowly. Within a half hour the water will drip out sufficiently to cause the arm of the machine holding the gas pellets to tip and create the death fumes that will murder the prisoner in his cell. 'Granville' then leaves the horrified prisoner trapped in the barred cell.

Meanwhile, in the library, Gene, Tiny and Burt have finished deciphering the message, which warns them that the Granville they know is a phony, the real Granville is trapped in the basement. But the boys have searched everywhere — everywhere, Gene realizes, except Granville's study. However, they can't go busting in. Instead, Gene prepares to call the police. In the study, 'Granville' tells Malcolm and Jeff what has happened, and listens in on the extension phone as Gene asks the police to come to the house. Suddenly, 'Granville' gets a fiendish idea and calls Dixon over the inter-house phone, ordering him to bring whatever men, except the boys, that are in the house at the moment to the audience room.

There, 'Granville' tells Dixon that he has discovered that the Daredevils are working for 39013. He is going to have them come to the audience room where Dixon and the other detectives will make them captives for the police.

The boys receive 'Granville's' call and head for the audience room, their dog Tuffie following them. Malcolm lets them in, but keeps Tuffie out of the room as he shuts the door. Within moments, the boys are prisoners, 'Granville' ordering them gagged and tied up. He wants to question the boys privately before the police get there, or so he says. But Gene suddenly goes at Dixon, and within moments a wild, vicious brawl begins, during which the glass wall and door separating the 'sterile' part of the room from the rest of the house, is shattered. Blanche, meanwhile, wanting to see her grandfather, spots Tuffie, evidently excited and worried, outside the door of the audience room and opens it to look in. She sees the fight and the Daredevils subdued as Jeff appears, whipping out a gun. 'Granville' informs Blanche of the boys' association with 39013, when Tuffie, at a command from Gene, goes at 'Granville' leaping at the man and knocking him to the floor. Within moments, the dog has ripped the in-

**THE RIDDLE RIDER COMES TO THE PAGES OF SERIAL WORLD NEXT ISSUE...  
DON'T MISS IT!**

credible mask from 'Granville's' face, and Dixon, the Daredevils, Blanche and the detectives find themselves staring at the snarling face of Harry Crowell, 39013 himself! With Jeff and Malcolm beside him, both armed, 39013 makes his way into the Granville study. When the Daredevils and the other break in, they find the secret panel to the maze of secret halls in the house open. Gene has Dixon and the other detectives surround the house, while he and his pals, and Blanche, search for the hidden basement. Gene spots a huge steel door and realizes this is the entrance. He has the group start looking for a button that opens the door. Blanche finds it.

However, while all this is happening, the real Granville is looking on, horrified as the infernal machine, reaches the danger point, and the gas pellet is crashed into the acid. Within moments, the room is filling with the deadly poison gas. Just then, the steel door to the room slides upward and Gene and the others come in. Burt frees Granville from the cell and the group starts to make its way out of the death room. But 39013, sneaking back into the study, pushes the button that sends the steel doorway closing down, trapping the Daredevils, Blanche and Granville inside!

## 11: The Red Circle Speaks

As the huge steel door slides down, Tiny quickly jams something under it (a stool, I believe), halting its downward movement. Then, using his great strength, raises the door enough to enable Blanche to get the now unconscious Granville out of the gas-filled room, and then let Gene and Burt out. Gene and Burt then hold up the door from the outside and Tiny gets away, moments before the gas overcomes him as well. The door is released and slides shut, sealing off the cell of terror.

Later, in the study of the Granville house, a doctor is busy examining the unconscious Granville, while the Daredevils, Blanche, Dixon and Chief Landon sit watching. Landon announces that the house is surrounded and they'll search it from top to bottom. He's sure 39013 and his confederates, Dr. Malcolm and Jeff, won't escape.

At that moment, 39013, and his two aides, are hiding in one of the secret passages, just outside the study, with 39013 listening to what's going on. When Malcolm and Jeff hear Landon's statement, they become panicky, but 39013 takes command and suddenly gets an idea. The trio moves deeper into the maze of hidden walkways.

That night, in the study, the entire group is still there, as Granville, now conscious, is resting on the couch with Blanche hovering by him. Granville is explaining how he came to be in his predicament. Crowell had been sent to prison by Granville when he had been discovered defrauding stockholders in Granville's company of a fortune. He spent 15 years in prison, nursing his hatred of Granville and desire for revenge until he became half mad with the idea. Granville himself had been on a trip and became ill. His secretary, the late Stanley, took him to a sanitarium where he was confronted by 39013. The madman had gained the support of Stanley, Dr. Malcolm and Jeff by promising them a good chunk of money accrued in 39013's maniacal operation. Shortly afterwards, the hidden cell was built, Granville was imprisoned in his own house and with the fantastic mask he had perfected, 39013 proceeded to carry out his revenge.

In answer to Granville's ensuing questions the boys explain how they became involved in the hunt for 39013, seeking to avenge the death of Sammy, Gene's little brother, after 39013's men caused the fire at Granville Amusement Pier,

and their rescue of Blanche from the fire. (flashback Ep. 1). Gene also tells of their foiling the Channel Tunnel plot to save it from 39013's master plan (climax of Ep. 1 and solution from beginning episode 2). All this is seen via flashbacks.

But the question in everyone's mind is...who was the RED CIRCLE? The answer is given instantly by the Red Circle herself...Blanche! She explains that one day she entered the audience room to find it empty and, curiosity prompting, entered her grandfather's study to find him with Stanley, Malcolm and Jeff. It was too late when she realized the truth, and was confronted by 39013 who unmasked himself. He then took the girl, blindfolded, to the real Granville, making her think that he was held at another house. He then explained the deadly gas machine to her, warning her to keep quiet about what she learned or her grandfather would die! So, in order to keep Crowell, or 39013, from suspecting she was helping the boys, Blanche adopted their symbol, the Red Circle, and, under the cloak of secrecy, sent out the warnings that had so often aided the Daredevils.

Gene's agile brain suddenly wonders if there might have been more secret panels, and Blanche is suddenly starting to remember one that she had seen when the lights suddenly go out. In the midst of confusion, there is a piercing scream of terror from Blanche! What is Blanche's fate?

## 12: Flight To Doom

After Blanche has screamed, Gene strikes a match to reveal...Blanche is missing! Granville is frantic, and Landon and Dixon are completely bewildered. Just then, the lights come on again, and a few moments later, the telephone rings. Dixon answers it and is frozen for a moment in shock, for the voice coming over the phone is that of 39013. The mad criminal tells Dixon that Blanche is his prisoner. In exchange for the girl's safety, 39013 demands that all the police around the house be pulled away and he and his confederates be given a chance to get away. Any tricks and Blanche will die. After he cuts off communication, Landon is all for tricking the maniac, but Granville stops him; he knows the depths of Crowell's twisted mind and realizes that he will kill Blanche at the slightest provocation. The three Daredevils and the others are against a stone wall, while 39013 gleefully orders his associates to their task; Jeff is to plant a bomb in the only car capable of catching them — Blanche's roadster — and fix the bomb so it goes off when the speedometer hits 70 mph. Malcolm is to remove the money that 39013 has gathered from the safe in his secret office. 39013 will keep an eye on the study through the peep-hole in the secret passage.

Meanwhile, Tuffie, the boys' dog, has ambled in and immediately begins to sniff at the walls of the room, eventually stopping at the secret panel. Gene notices this and nonchalantly signals to Tiny, who in turn pretends to be going to sleep. Suddenly, the strong man whirls and ploughs right at the panel, crashing into it, and battering it with his fists. 39013 is jolted when Tiny comes crashing through the panel and beats a hasty retreat to his hidden office where Blanche is tied and gagged. Malcolm and Jeff are there and the trio escapes via another secret passage. The Daredevils, Granville, Dixon and Landon find Blanche who tells them of 39013's escape. Gene realizes that the maze of secret passages is too great, that their best bet would be to head for the outside and grab the three fugitives as they try to escape.

39013, Malcolm and Jeff drive off in one of the Granville sedans, the money they've taken in a case and Malcolm's medical bag. Gene and Burt take Chief Landon's car and

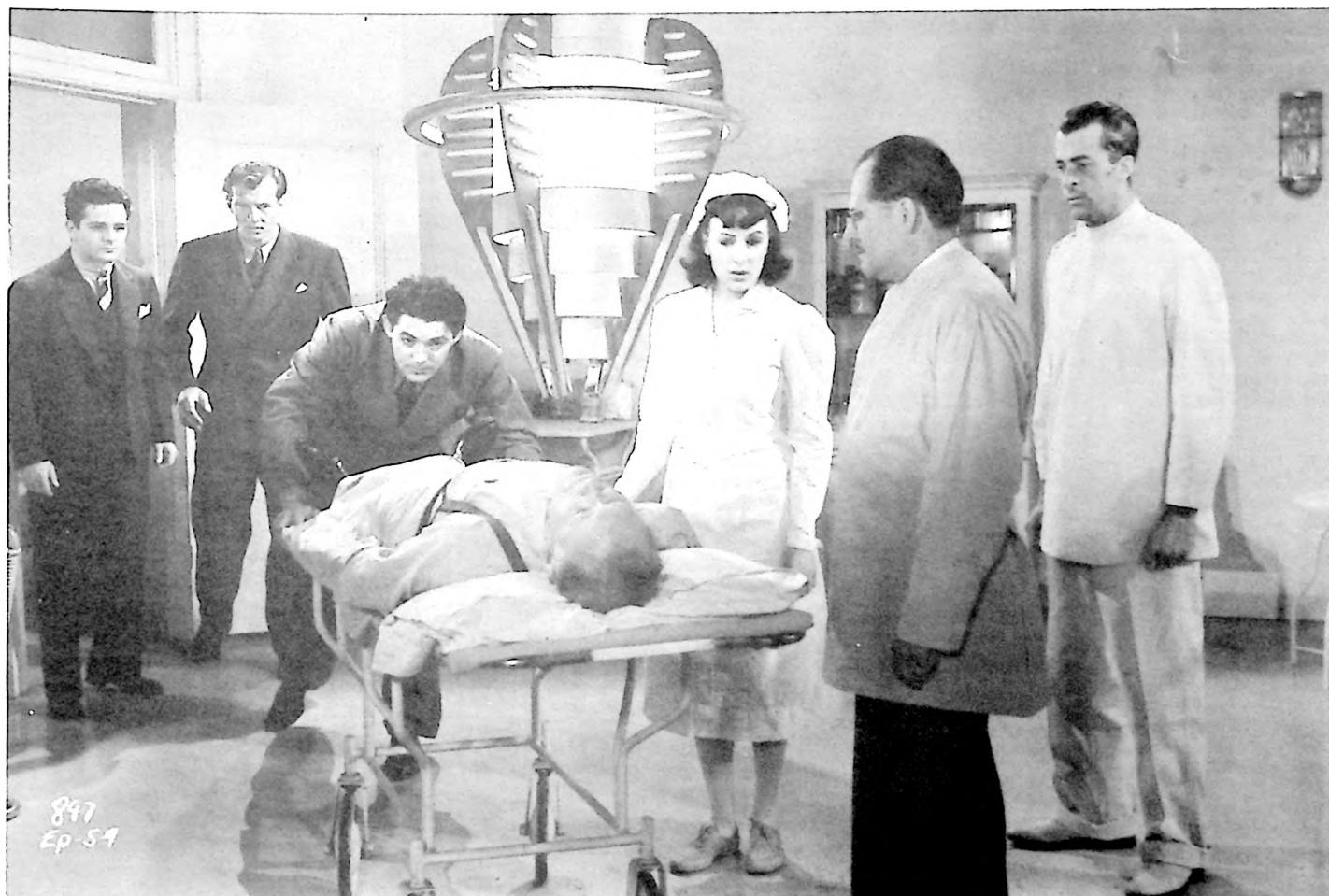
drive in hot pursuit. Blanche, Tiny and Landon have decided to use Blanche's roadster and speed off, not knowing of the bomb hooked to the speedometer. The chase is wild, with Crowell shooting back at the pursuing Gene and Burt. Blanche's car speeds along, the speed almost reaching the danger level, when she swerves to avoid hitting a truck or other obstacles, with the speed shifting back and forth.

Crowell has Jeff turn onto a dirt road, and in the new phase of the pursuit, Burt whips out a gun and manages to puncture one of the tires of the enemy car. The evil trio decides to make a run for it in some sparse woods, with Burt and Gene in pursuit. When 39013 uses up all the bullets in his gun, the two boys tackle the thugs in a wild battle. 39013 is knocked out, while Jeff is captured when trying to escape with one of the money bags. Burt knocks Dr. Malcolm down, and while Gene and Burt have gone after Jeff, the doctor picks up the unconscious 39013 and one of the money bags and carries them away. Blanche has spotted the cars, meanwhile pulled to a stop and she, Tiny and Landon get out. As Blanche watches while Tiny and Landon join Gene and Burt, Malcolm, carrying the unconscious 39013 and the money sneaks over to her car, dumps his chief and the loot in the back seat and drives off. Blanche tells the group what happened, and Gene, leaving the captured Jeff with Landon, leaps in Landon's car, with Burt and Tiny joining him. They pursue Blanche's roadster.

Meanwhile, as the chase gets faster, and Malcolm is increasing the speed of the car, Crowell, alias 39013, is coming to in the back. Suddenly, horror crosses his face as he recognizes the car and remembers the booby trap planted in

it. Seeing the speedometer reaching 70, he screams to the frantic Malcolm to slow down, but the renegade doctor, crazed with the need to escape his pursuers, is unable to hear his chief, partly due to the noises of the car and the wind. Crowell is hurtled back into the seat when the car hits a bump, and in the next moment, the speedometer arrow hits 70 mph, the roadster, with 39013 and Dr. Malcolm inside, is blown to bits, pieces of the vehicle falling from the skies. Gene and his pals stop to watch, and Gene's next words are, 'Well, it looks like 39013 just added up to zero!'

Later, at the Granville mansion, with the terror ended, the boys and Blanche watch as Granville closes the lid on the box containing the incredible mask of Granville that 39013 used to commit his acts of revenge. The boys inform Blanche and Granville that they plan to try out for the Great East-West Circus. If they make the try-out, their careers may be made. Granville, wanting to show his gratitude for what the boys have done for him, calls his broker and as Gene, Tiny, Burt and the delighted Blanche listen he orders his broker to find out the price of the East/West Circus and buys it. He orders the boys to take good care of it, that it will be their someday. Blanche is happy for she will obviously be able to see more of Gene, in fact she is even thinking of becoming a bareback rider (!!!). Just then, all react as the secret panel in the study opens, only to reveal Snowflake, who had been lost in the maze of passages. However, as the major-domo of the house leans out to look around, the panel closes, trapping his head, while Tuffy proceeds to happily lick Snowflake's face in a friendly fashion. The Daredevils, Blanche and Granville all have a good laugh as the adventure ends.



# THE PEARL WHITE FILM LIST

By Buck Rainey

The Girl From Arizona (Pathe, 1910)  
The Missing Bridegroom (Powers, 1910)  
Tommy Gets His Sister Married (Pathe, 1910)  
Her Photograph (Pathe, 1910)  
The Hoodoo (Pathe, 1910)  
A Summer Flirtation (Pathe, 1910)  
The New Magdalene (Powers, 1910)  
The Woman Hater (Powers, 1910)  
The Maid of Niagara (Pathe, 1910)  
When the World Sleeps (Powers, 1910)  
The Count of Monte Cristo (Powers, 1911)  
Home Sweet Home (Powers, 1911)  
Helping Him Out (Lubin, 1911)  
Angel of the Slums (Powers, 1911)  
His Birthday (Lubin, 1911)  
Memories of the Past (Pathe, 1911)  
Through the Window (Pathe, 1911)  
The Reporter (Pathe, 1911)  
The Lost Necklace (Pathe, 1911)  
The Power of Love (Pathe, 1911)  
For the Honor of the Name (Powers, 1911)  
The Arrowmaker's Daughter (Pathe, 1912)  
The Girl in the Next Room (Crystal, 1912)  
Her Dressmaker's Bills (Crystal, 1912)  
Bella's Beaus (Crystal, 1912)  
A Pair of Fools (Crystal, 1912)  
Oh, Such a Night (Crystal, 1912)  
The Gypsy Flirt (Crystal, 1912)  
The Chorus Girl (Crystal, 1912)  
Locked Out (Crystal, 1912)  
A Tangled Marriage (Crystal, 1912)  
The Mind Cure (Crystal, 1912)  
His Wife's Stratagem (Crystal, 1912)  
Her Visitor (Crystal, 1912)  
Mayblossom (Pathe, 1912)  
Her Kid Sister (Crystal, 1913)  
Heroic Harold (Crystal, 1913)  
A Dip Into Society (Crystal, 1913)  
Pearl's Admirers (Crystal, 1913)  
With Her Rival's Help (Crystal, 1913)  
Accident Insurance (Crystal, 1913)  
Strictly Business (Crystal, 1913)  
That Other Girl (Crystal, 1913)  
A Night in Town (Crystal, 1913)  
Who is the Goat (Crystal, 1913)  
Knights and Ladies (Crystal, 1913)  
Lovers Three (Crystal, 1913)  
The Drummer's Note Book (Crystal, 1913)  
Our Parents-In-Law (Crystal, 1913)  
Pearl as a Clairvoyant (Crystal, 1913)  
The Veiled Lady (Crystal, 1913)  
Two Lunatics (Crystal, 1913)  
Forgetful Flossie (Crystal, 1913)  
His Awful Daughter (Crystal, 1913)  
When Love is Young (Crystal, 1913)  
Pearl as a Detective (Crystal, 1913)  
Homlock Shermes (Crystal, 1913)  
Toodeums (Crystal, 1913)  
Where Charity Begins (Crystal, 1913)  
Mary's Romance (Crystal, 1913)  
The New Typist (Crystal, 1913)  
A Call From Home (Crystal, 1913)  
Will Power (Crystal, 1913)  
Who is in the Box? (Crystal, 1913)  
Muchly Engaged (Crystal, 1913)  
An Hour of Terror (Crystal, 1913)  
True Chivalry (Crystal, 1913)  
The Girl Reporter (Crystal, 1913)  
Pearl's Dilemma (Crystal, 1913)  
College Chums (Crystal, 1913)  
The Hall Room Girls (Crystal, 1913)  
The Broken Spell (Crystal, 1913)  
The Paper Doll (Crystal, 1913)  
Starving for Love (Crystal, 1913)  
What Papa Got (Crystal, 1913)  
A Child's Influence (Crystal, 1913)  
Oh! You Scotch Lassie (Crystal, 1913)  
Pearl and the Tramp (Crystal, 1913)  
Caught in the Act (Crystal, 1913)  
A Greater Influence (Crystal, 1913)  
His Aunt Emma (Crystal, 1913)  
That Crying Baby (Crystal, 1913)  
Lost in the Night (Crystal, 1913)  
Much Ado About Nothing (Crystal, 1913)  
The Hand of Providence (Crystal, 1913)  
Lost in the Night (Crystal, 1913)  
Pleasing Her Husband (Crystal, 1913)  
The Hand of Providence (Crystal, 1913)  
A News Item (Crystal, 1913)  
Misplaced Love (Crystal, 1913)  
Pearl and the Poet (Crystal, 1913)  
His Lost Gamble (Crystal, 1913)  
Dress Reform (Crystal, 1913)  
The Woman and the Law (Crystal, 1913)  
Pearl's Mistake (Crystal, 1913)  
Willie's Great Scheme (Crystal, 1913)  
Hearts Entangled (Crystal, 1913)  
A Hidden Love (Crystal, 1913)  
Robert's Lesson (Crystal, 1913)  
The Rich Uncle (Crystal, 1913)  
The Fatal Plunge (Eclectric, 1913)  
Girls Will Be Boys (Crystal, 1913)  
Out of the Grove (Crystal, 1913)  
Pals (Pathe, 1913)  
Daisy Wins the Day (Pathe, 1913)  
When Duty Calls (Crystal, 1913)  
At the Burglar's Command (Pathe, 1913)  
Oh! You Pearl (Crystal, 1913)  
Her Secretaries (Crystal, 1913)  
Out of the Grave (Crystal, 1913)  
The Cabaret Singer (Crystal, 1913)  
Hubby's New Coat (Crystal, 1913)  
The Convict's Daughter (Crystal, 1913)  
A Woman's Revenge (Crystal, 1913)  
Pearl's Hero (Crystal, 1913)  
First Love (Crystal, 1913)  
The Soubrette (Crystal, 1913)  
The Heart of an Artist (Crystal, 1913)  
The Lifted Veil (Crystal, 1913)  
Lure of the Stage (Crystal, 1913)  
The Kitchen Mechanic (Crystal, 1913)  
The Lass That Loved a Sailor (Pathe, 1913)  
Where Charity Begins (? 1913)  
Shadowed (Crystal, 1914)  
The Ring (Crystal, 1914)  
It May Come to This (Crystal, 1914)  
A Father's Devotion (Crystal, 1914)



The Shadow of Crime (Crystal, 1914)  
Oh! You Puppy (Crystal, 1914)  
A Grateful Outcast (Crystal, 1914)  
What Didn't Happen to Mary (Crystal, 1914)  
For a Woman (Crystal, 1914)  
Getting Reuben Back (Crystal, 1914)  
McSweeney's Masterpiece (Crystal, 1914)  
A Sure Cure (Crystal, 1914)  
Lizzie and the Iceman (Crystal, 1914)  
Going Some (Crystal, 1914)  
The Perils of Pauline (Pathe, 1914) (Serial)  
The Lady Doctor (Crystal, 1914)  
Get Out and Get Under (Crystal, 1914)  
A Telephone Engagement (Crystal, 1914)  
The Mashers (Crystal, 1914)  
The Dancing Craze (Crystal, 1914)  
Easy Money (Crystal, 1914)  
The Girl in Pants (Crystal, 1914)  
Her New Hat (Crystal, 1914)  
What Pearl's Pearls Did (Crystal, 1914)  
Willie's Disguise (Crystal, 1914)  
Easy Lynn in Bugville (Crystal, 1914)  
Some Collectors (Crystal, 1914)  
Oh! You Mummy (Crystal, 1914)  
The Exploits of Elaine (Pathe, 1914) (Serial)  
A Lady in Distress (Superba, 1915)  
The New Exploits of Elaine (Pathe, 1915) (Serial)  
The Romance of Elaine (Pathe, 1915) (Serial)  
The King's Game (Pathe, 1916)  
Hazel Kirke (Pathe, 1916)  
The Iron Claw (Pathe, 1916) (Serial)  
Pearl of the Army (Pathe, 1916) (Serial)  
Mayblossom (Astro, 1917)  
The Fatal Ring (Pathe, 1917) (Serial)  
The House of Hate (Pathe, 1918) (Serial)  
The Lightning Raider (Pathe, 1919) (Serial)  
The Black Secret (Pathe, 1919) (Serial)  
The White Moll (Fox, 1920)  
The Tiger's Club (Fox, 1920)  
The Thief (Fox, 1920)  
The Mountain Woman (Fox, 1921)  
Know Your Men (Fox, 1921)  
Beyond Price (Fox, 1921)  
Virgin Paradise (Fox, 1921)  
Any Wife (Fox, 1922)  
The Broadway Peacock (Fox, 1922)  
Without Fear (Fox, 1922)  
Plunder (Pathe, 1923) (Serial)  
Terror (Epinay, 1924)

# FOREWORD: THE RUSTLERS OF RED DOG

By Jim Stringham



**Jack Wood warns Mary Lee, Ira Dale, and Bob Lee of approaching Indians. He still holds the gun he used to shoot down Snakey when the man drew on him.**

**THE RUSTLERS OF RED DOG** may be the best of Universal's talking western serials. Certainly it's my own favorite. It is surprising that this one should work so much better than the others because plot elements, settings, music, players, and even much of the footage shown were used again and again by the studio.

To appreciate RUSTLERS, you need to get past the first chapter. Johnny Mack Brown has to do most of his acting here, and he is just too immature to be convincing as the veteran lawmen weary of killing. His speeches about the joys of a peaceful life are painful, but usually happily interrupted by fight sequences. He was also forced to bounce up and down in front of a process screen for riding scenes. Fortunately, he has more action than acting in later episodes. Toward the end of chapter one, as he changes horses and new characters appear to take the reins of Joyce Compton's wagon, you suddenly realize that they are carefully matching the climax of episode one of HEROES OF THE WEST to use a stock cliffhanger.

And there is a lot of stock in RUSTLERS, particularly from HEROES. It's exciting footage, though, and carefully worked into the plot. The new material, also good, would contribute to later serials.

Writer Nathaniel Eddy may be the one most responsible for the success of RUSTLERS. His original story produced twelve tight chapters with no obvious padding and a good finish. There was always something happening, as a direct part of his plot. Side trips to the gold mine, the lumber camp, etc. were not introduced into the story.

H.L. Woods as Rocky also had much to do with making the film effective. Lack of menace was the most consistent weakness of Universal's serials, and the cowardly villains of THE INDIANS ARE COMING or BATTING WITH BUFFALO BILL presented no challenge to any reasonably com-

petent hero. The fact that RUSTLERS was named for the villains, unusual for Universal, indicated that this one would be different. Woods' character was a brave, intelligent, capable — even honest and chivalrous (within strict limits) — and surprisingly likable antagonist who made the continuing struggle with Jack Wood an even one. There was no separation of brains and action heavies. Woods' character effectively combined both roles. It was well done, with only his last dying speech a disappointment. He might better have remained defiant to the end.

His ruthlessness was established by a series of attacks on miners in the opening scenes, where he personally gunned down some of them. Later, he led his men out of Fort Milton through hostile Indians, leaving the gate open so that the raiders would be too concerned with wiping out the settlers and troops inside to pursue him. When he joined the wagon train earlier during another attack, he was not at all worried by the fact that his plan to steal a money shipment would require him to get through the Indians or the soldiers. Even arriving at the fort in the midst of a general uprising merely offered him a new opportunity to accomplish his mission.

He reached the train by leading his men in a charge against the red warriors. Later, he was as eager as Brown to complete their showdown. (It was repeatedly interrupted.) When Joyce Compton appeared between his gang and the lawmen during a gunfight, his concern was to "Get her out of there." As a prisoner, he strictly observed the rules when his gun was returned for use only against the attacking Indians. He was shot, knocked out, and captured, but kept coming back more dangerous than before.

I particularly liked a scene before the fight in the saloon where he looked at the bullet hole in Brown's marshal's badge as though planning to put another one beside it. He seemed to be recalling the occasion when the first one appeared.

Rocky was loyal to his men, and demanded total loyalty in return. The scene in chapter seven where he revives after being wounded only to see Jake die and adds it to his score to settle with Brown might have been played by the hero of another western. His character is so well established that the two mistakes that bring about his downfall can be pinpointed. Angered by what he considers Edmond Cobb's treachery (The man tried to take over the gang after Rocky was captured) he sends them away, unarmed, in the midst of an Indian war. Later he makes an unnecessarily brutal attack on an old man while robbing the local bank. These two acts would lead to his capture and death.

Veterans Walter Miller and Raymond Hatton were also good. Miller's character of a somber, black-clad gambler was much like one done by Tim McCoy, except that his was an out-and-out cheat. Cards changed faces as they passed through his fingers. Protest was generally limited because of the sawed-off double barreled shotgun he kept on his lap as he played. When an opponent questioned his way with cards he was caressing the weapon as he asked: "Anything subtile meant by that remark?" Assured "No, not at all!" He replied "Umm, your apology does you credit." While his partner preferred cards, Laramie was more concerned with the liquor and girls offered by the saloon. When he learned that the place was to be closed so that the outlaws could be tried, his reaction was "Then give me a keg of that red eye, cause trials

is mighty dry work." Their banter during tense moments was always enjoyable.

The heroine was used mostly to get into trouble or to misunderstand events. (She pronounced both Charles French and Lafe McKee dead in the course of the story, although both survived all twelve episodes.) William Desmond was a hot-tempered wagon master who had the best line of the movie. When Brown told him "I came to warn you of an Indian attack," he protested, "We have scouts out watching for Indians." Then, a rider galloped up shouting "Indians!... Indians!... Indians!... Indians!" Desmond added "Here comes one now."

Universal's usual minor character touches were included. An interlude before an expected Indian attack in chapter four found Laramie courting an Irish widow who made the best

Mulligan stew he ever tasted, Jack trying to explain the hard ways of the west to Mary — and Deacon separating the outlaws from their ill-gotten gains in a card game.

Two final notes: Wood was repeatedly wounded in the course of the cliffhangers. Apparently the wounds healed in the week between chapters, because no mention of them was made in the next chapter. When he dropped into a well after being shot, his only concern was for his wet clothes. The rustlers were the most impressive band of outlaws to appear in a Universal serial. Watching them gallop into Nugget, it was easy to believe that they would dominate the town and the country around it as specified by the script. As led by H.L. Woods, they provided more than sufficient menace to motivate twelve chapters of exciting conflict.

To be continued...

# RUTH ROLAND PART TWO

By Buck Rainey

In early 1915 Ruth Roland moved to Balboa Feature Film Company, which had a releasing arrangement with Pathé, thus assuring wide distribution and adequate promotion of its product. Ruth was soon at work in the "Who Pays?" series with Henry King (who later became an outstanding director) playing opposite her and with Mollie McConnell featured. Each of the twelve 3-reel dramas was a complete story ending with a question to the audience as to who was responsible for the dilemma in which the principals found themselves. In a way, the films were a forerunner to today's soap operas, and audiences enjoyed the "jury duty" imposed on them. The films were quite profitable.

Following a five-reel feature titled *Comrade John* (1915), Ruth made her first true serial, *The Red Circle* (1915), about a wealthy girl reformer cursed with a family taint causing her to commit crimes against society — a sort of lady Jekyll and Hyde. Frank Mayo was the crime specialist who loved Ruth and solved the riddle of the red circle curse.

Balboa next put Ruth into a couple more features, then cast her and Frank Mayo in a series called "Who Wins?", hoping to cash in on the popularity of the "Who Pays?" series. Problems developed and the completed series was shelved. After two years eight of the episodes were released as *The Price of Folly* (1918) and the remaining episodes scraped. The first episode, entitled *Phantom Fame*, concerning the wife of a hardware merchant in a small town who has literary aspirations. She comes to the city at the invitation of an



editor who has accepted one of her short stories and is followed by her husband who arrives in time to catch his wife in an unwelcome entanglement with the editor, who has already ruined the daughter of a laboring man and is altogether more villainous than the worst of editors are assumed to be. In the end the laboring man's daughter commits suicide and Ruth's disillusionment results in the loss of her mind, with the result she is sent to a sanitarium with doubt expressed that she will recover. Succeeding in-

stallments were similar in plot construction.

*The Neglected Wife* (1917) was Ruth's next serial, but it did little to further her career and its dearth of action and story were better suited as a society drama than as a thriller serial.

In May, 1917, Ruth journeyed to New York City where, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Long Island, she was married to Lionel T. Kent. After two months they were separated, but Kent remained Ruth's business manager for some years. And speaking

of business, Ruth had much business acumen. She was a "lady Gene Autry" in that she constantly was wheeling and dealing. Underneath that smooth, well-groomed exterior, she knew more about stocks and bonds than probably anyone in Hollywood. And though her acting salary eventually rose to several thousands of dollars a week, the fact that she retired a millionairess was due more to her intense business sagacity than to her powers or income as an actress. Her acting gave her the capital to operate with, and she used it to an advantage that would shame most businessmen. She early invested in Hollywood real estate. She knew how to make money on the turnover of real estate and had an unerring eye for chances and rarely made a mistake. Also, she had courage to make decisions involving large sums of money and make them quick. Unfortunately, unlike Autry, she quite often was temperamental on the set and is known to have made a couple of serials without even speaking to her leading man or director except when absolutely necessary.



RUTH ROLAND  
IN  
THE AVENGING ARROW

# DANGERS OF THE CANADIAN MOUNTED

A REPUBLIC SERIAL IN 12 CHAPTERS



## EPISODES:

1. LEGEND OF GENGHIS KHAN
2. KEY TO THE LEGEND
3. TERROR IN THE SKY
5. PURSUIT
6. STOLEN CARGO
7. THE FATAL SHOT
8. FALSE TESTIMONY
9. THE PRISONER SPY
10. THE SECRET MEETING
11. SECRET OF THE ALTAR
12. LIQUID JEWELS

Directed by FRED BRANNON & YAKIMA CANUTT  
Associate Producer MIKE FRANKOVICH  
Screenplay: FRANKLYN ADRLON, BASIL DICKY, SOL  
SHOP, ROBERT G. WALKER  
Musical Director MOE GLICKMAN  
Special Effects HOWARD & THEODORE LYDECKER

## CAST:

JIM BANNON as CAPT. CHRIS  
ROYAL  
VIRGINIA BELMONT as BOBBIE  
PAGE  
ANTHONY WARDE as MORT  
FOWLER  
DOROTHY GRANGER as  
SKAGWAY KATE  
BILL VAN SICKEL as DAN  
PAGE  
DALE VAN SICKEL as BOYD  
TOM STEELE as FAGIN

I. STANFORD JOLLEY as  
BELANCO  
PHIL WARRAN as GEORGE  
LEE MORGAN as DALE  
JAMES DALE as ANDY  
TED ADAMS as OLDTIMER  
JOHN CRAWFORD as DANTON  
JACK CLIFFORD as MARSHAL  
EDDIE PARKER as LOWRY  
FRANK O'CONNOR as U.S. COM-  
MISSIONER  
KENNETH TERRELL

## 1: THE LEGEND OF GENGHIS KHAN

Prospector, Bill Sawyer, searching for gold near the town of Alcan on the International Border Line dividing Alaska and Canada, stumbles upon an ancient Chinese junk. According to an old legend, the junk is one of the armada of treasure-hunting ships sent out by the great Genghis Khan in the 13th century. The junk is believed to hold the clue to a vast hidden treasure. Before Sawyer can do anything, however, he is murdered by Mort Fowler, a cold-blooded killer. Mort is working for an unknown chief, leading a gang of outlaws.

The villains are preparing to search for the hidden treasure when they learn that the Alcan territory is to be opened to homesteaders. When roadbuilders, headed by Captain Christopher Royal of the Mounties, begin work, Fowler makes plans to blow up their railroad supply bridge. Chris learns of the plot and races to the rescue. He catches up to the train and leaps aboard, surprising Mort in the act of lighting the fuse for a bomb. In the ensuing fight, Chris is knocked out, and Mort jumps to safety. The train is shattered by the bomb, with Chris aboard! (From KING OF THE MOUNTIES)

## 2: KEY TO THE LEGEND

Reviving before the explosion, Chris tries to put out the fuse but fails. Grabbing a gun, that Mort dropped in their fight, Chris leaps from the train in time. He rolls down a steep embankment before the explosion.

Checking the gun's serial number, Chris identifies Mort as its owner. Chris surprises the killer in his cabin, but as he's making the arrest, another thug appears. Mort escapes in his car, but the other man is killed during the ensuing fight. Chris rides after him, and Mort realizes he can't escape. He starts a forest fire between himself and his pursuer. With the blaze raging, and smoke blinding, Chris tries to find his way out of the inferno. Stumbling around, he misses his footing, and falls, just as a huge, burning tree crashes down upon him! (Ep. 1 KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED)

## 3: GHOST TOWN

Chris rolls aside before the tree comes crashing down on him. He manages to find a way out of the burning woods.

Their first attack on the road crew failing, Mort and his men begin

waylaying laborers on the road and driving them off. Chris counters with a road trap in which an outlaw is killed. The mountie examines the dead man's clothes and finds the tabbed key for a room in the deserted hotel in Ghost Town. He's sure he can learn information on the gang if he can examine the room. He goes there that night, entering the hotel. However, Chris is unaware that Mort planted the hotel key on the dead man to lure Chris into an electrical trap. Chris opens the door of the hotel room, and is sent crashing to the ground by a blast of electricity!

## 4: TERROR IN THE SKY

Chris falls as Mort and a henchman appear from hiding. As they near Chris, he jumps up and attacks them. In the battle, Mort escapes, but his henchman is killed. On a slip of paper Mort has dropped, Chris finds a list of books on old Chinese legends and coins.

Chris is certain the books are a clue to the outlaws' activities and sendsbie Page, his attractive aide, to the Vancouver Library to get the books. When Bobbie returns with the books and lands her plane, Mort is waiting for her. He forces the girl to take off. Chris arrives at the airport, sees what's happening, and gets to the plane tail just as it takes off. He clammers inside and he and Mort battle it out, while Bobbie pilots the ship. In the fight, one of the blows knocks her out, and she falls against the control stick, jamming it. Mort parachutes out of the plane, leaving Chris trying to bring the ship under control as it plunges to Earth.

## 5: PURSUIT

Chris manages to get the plane under control enough so he can make a crash landing. He and Bobbie extricate themselves from the ship and take the books with them. Knowing the bandits won't delay in trying to steal the volumes, Chris sets a trap. The plan goes awry and Mort and his cutthroats get the books. They make their escape in a speedboat on a lake. Chris and one of his men follow in another craft. A running gun fight ensues, during which some of Mort's men are killed. Mort finds some hand grenades in a locker on his boat and bombards the Mounties with them. A lucky throw lands a grenade alongside the mounties' boat, overturning it in a deafening explosion (KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED)

## 6: STOLEN CARGO

Just before the boat is blasted, Chris and his aide leap into the lake and swim for shore.

Mort hires Prof. Belanco, an expert in oriental knowledge, and has him start decoding the code which will lead to the treasure. Belanco has no idea of the kind of man he is working for. Meanwhile, Mort continues attacking the road builders. Scheming to seize their explosives truck, Mort sets up a barrier in the road. Bobbie, and a local youngster named Dan, drive in from the opposite direction. Helped by his dog, Dan escapes and tells Chris what happened. The mountie breaks through the barricade. Bobbie drives off in her station wagon, but she's knocked out. Chris rides in pursuit only to see the explosives truck heading for the station wagon. The wagon and truck collide in a thunderous explosion!



# Chapter I. LEGEND OF GENGHIS KHAN

